# The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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C. O. D. BRIGHAM, Editor.

Letters on Business, Subscription, &c., addressed to THE COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh, Pa.


## HARRISBURG.

### Proceedings of the Legislature.

Special to the Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, Pa., February 8, 1872.

SENATE.

**Mr. McClure's Contest.**

Mr. Davis, of Philadelphia, rose to a question of privilege, and presented a petition contesting the seat of Henry W. Gray as Senator from the Fourth District.

Strang immediately offered the following:

*Resolved*, That the proposition to present a petition of certain citizens of Philadelphia, contesting the seat of H. W. Gray as Senator from the Fourth District, be referred to the Judiciary Committee, with instructions to inquire whether, under existing laws, the same can be received, and what disposition can be made of the same, and report by bill or otherwise.

Buckalew moved to add "and that the petition report on to-morrow."

Billingfelt said that general terms of this motion met with his approbation, yet there were a few words in it to which he objected—whether the same can be received." Would it not be better to strike those words out? Those words rather looked as we if did not exactly what we were doing.

Strang said the only object was to submit to the committee the question as to what action ought to be made of this petition—whether, under existing laws, we can take action in the case mentioned in the petition. He therefore, but if the phraseology was objectionable, he would consent to striking out the words referred to.

White said good taste forbade any remarks on his part, as a member of the Judiciary General, as to what the opinion of the committee might be, but he could assure the Senate that no one should be prejudiced in any way because of time. He did not think it safe to do justice to all the questions and petitions by to-morrow. He (White) would say, however, that the report would be made as soon as possible.

Buckalew said his motion was exactly in accordance with what was done last year in the Mc Clure case.

The suggestion of his Republican friends, that he should withdraw the motion, he would do the next day; it was to report on Monday following, and the resolution had been passed on Thursday. Mr. White moved to lay the same on the table by substituting "to report in so soon as able."

Graham said he could speak for his side of the chamber when he declared that they were ready for any wrong purpose. The committee should report a month hence, by advantage, he could promise, would be taken that fact.

Wallace said that whilst he conceded the readiness of the Senator from Allegheny, as a clause in the Constitution which provided that this petition should be considered within five days.

Graham declaimed any design to excite any feeling on the subject. The case of 1869 was not analogous to this. The case of 1871 was presented within ten days after the organization of the Legislature.

The motion of Mr. White, that the report should not be presented till to-morrow, was put, on the call of the yeas and nays resulted as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Anderson, Billingfelt, Brooke, Buckalew, Fulton, Graham, Grier, Hall, Hay, Hopkins, Humphreys, Mumma, Strang, Wartfel, Weaver, Wherry, White—and Republicans—13.

NAYS—Messrs. Albright, Armstrong, Beckalew, Crawford, Davis, Berks; Dechert, Findley, Fleming, Fry, Sherry, Sagle, Petriken, Purman, Randall, Smith, Wallace—all Democrats except Allen, Bentley—14.

So the motion to lay the resolution on the table was determined in the negative, was then paired, as were others, declined to vote on the ground that the question was a party question.

The motion was lost by adding "to report on Monday evening at half past seven o'clock"—subsequently changing it to twelve o'clock on Monday noon, which was agreed to by yeas and nays.

Dechert, Democrat, observed that last year a similar course of action was taken in the case of Dechert, it was decided by a party vote by the Republican side. He should vote against this resolution, because there was no allegation in the petition, nor did it arise in the petition, Billingfelt urged patience, believing that the case would be settled satisfactorily. He did not believe this was a case similar to that of Mr. Dechert. He had not known that Mr. Clure would contest this seat till this morning, wherens the law says such petitions are to be presented within ten days after the organization of the Legislature next succeeding election. Now, it was plain to everybody that this petition could not be presented within the time prescribed by the act of Assembly, and there were many differences of opinion, and he complain if time was not given to the Committee. Their report would probably advisory, and the Senate could do as it pleased. He did not know of any Senator who would deny the right of appeal. If we have law, let us apply law in this case; if we have no law, it is our duty to enact law by which we could settle this and mete out justice to all parties concerned.

The resolution as modified at Mr. Billingfelt's suggestion, and as amended by Mr. White was then passed by a *viva voce* vote.

Brooke, in consideration of the importance of the subject, moved to increase the number to seven. Agreed to, and Speaker appointed Messrs. Strang and Purman.

The Judiciary Committee as formed to consider the resolution is as follows: Chairman, White, of Indiana, Republican; Mumma, Republican; Fulton, Republican; Strang, Republican; Davis of Berks, Democrat; Wallace, of Clearfield, Democrat; Purman, of Tioga, Republican; Purman, of Democrat.

**The Libel Bill**

was then postponed.

The Senate bill requiring drawing to be made in public schools was passed by a party vote.

Graham called up the bill incorporating the United Savings Bank of Pittsburgh.

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**

Mr. Skinner called up his bill authorizing a lease of the Capitol Grounds for a monument, to be built by the State Teachers' Association, in memory of the founders of the common school system. Passed.

**School Bills Passed.**

A bill for a triennial enumeration of children of school age was passed.

A bill increasing the length of school terms passed second reading.

**Special Session for the Committee to Decide.**

Messrs. General Brewster and Amos, of Philadelphia, are Gray's counsel. W. Hall and others are McClure's. The question that the committee will enter—whether legally a contesting committee shown at this stage of the session. Arguments of counsel will be heard to-morrow evening.

Special to the Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, February 9, 1872.

SENATE.

**More Loose Legislation.**

Dechert drew attention to the fact that important Senate amendment to the bill to pay of Philadelphia policemen omitted by the transcribing being sent to the Governor, who signed the bill without it, and a resolution for investigation. Remarks of from Messrs. Davis of Philadelphia; Grew, Gray, Brooke and White, in which last legislation were without ever passed either house, or were deliberately falsified before reaching the Executive.

Adopted, and Messrs. Buckalew and were added. The committee now consists five Republicans and four Democrats.

**Bills Reported From Committees.**

Among the reports from committees were one bill securing married women their own earnings, with an amendment requiring to notify the Court of their intention to trade by law, and the House bill prohibiting the sale of liquors on election day, with amendment confining the prohibition to the day of voting.

**Resignation of the Schoeppe Case.**

Weakley introduced a bill authorizing Cumberland County Court to open judgment in Paul Schoeppe's case and grant a new trial.

**Eulogies on Senator Connell.**

Gray announced the death of Senator Connell, and after eulogies by Messrs. Gray, Randall, Purman and White, and passage of the usual resolutions, adjourned till to-day morning.

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**

**Bills Introduced.**

Mr. Gilfillan, incorporating the South Savings Bank; corporators, David Chess, Brown, John Hugus, Charles Schwarm, Trautman, James Kerr and others; location, Birmingham; capital, two hundred thousand dollars.

Mr. Sample, authorizing any rate of interest on written contract. Referred only request; also repealing aldermen supplement of February 14th, 1867.

Mr. Taylor, authorizing Bishop Domenec to certain real estate in Pottsville. Returned till Monday evening.

**The Civil Code.**

Joint Legislative Committee on the report of the Civil Code Commissioners reported unfavorably.

**The McClure-Gray Committee**

lost heard the argument of Mr. Briggs for sitting member, who entered the plea that the Senate has no jurisdiction, but that the case must be presented within ten days after the organization of the next Legislature, all combatting this view of the case in the case of McClure.

Special to the Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, PA., February 12, 1872.

SENATE.

Senate, which should have met at 10 o'clock this morning, was not called to till ten minutes after 12, Republican Senators being in caucus until that time on the McClure-Gray contested election case.

**Bills Introduced.**

By Mr. Dill, requiring Mutual Insurance Companies to file statements of premiums and moneys received.

By Mr. Rutan, conferring additional powers on the Burgess and town council of Rochester; also, making Glasgow borough and adjacent farms a separate election district; also, giving the Burgess and council of New Brighton control of the Beaver and Mercer State road.

By Mr. Graham, supplement for Allegheny City Water Bonds, which authorizes the issue of an additional one hundred thousand dollars; also, supplement for the Troy Hill Board, Allegheny City, which authorizes an assessment; also, supplement relative to the conversion of public grounds in Pittsburgh for Public Parks. This bill authorizes the Park Commissioners to use a fund to develope all the common grounds, diverting the same from, &c.; also, providing for the equitable division of property between the Allegheny County House and the Directors of the Poor of Allegheny City; also supplement for the Orphans' Asylum of Allegheny and Pittsburgh, changing the name to the Protestant Orphan Asylum of Pittsburgh and Allegheny, and fixing the limit of income and authorizing the Board of Managers to fill vacancies.

Mr. White offered a resolution for 2,000 copies of the Agricultural College Report. Adopted.

**The McClure-Gray Case.**

At half past twelve Mr. Wallace offered a resolution for drawing a committee in the McClure case at three o'clock. This he did because the Committee, which was directed to report at twelve, had not yet reported.

The Speaker referred the resolution to the Judiciary Committee, ruling that the petition was not yet in the jurisdiction of the Senate.

Mr. Wallace appealed, but withdrew his appeal on the assurance that the report would be made immediately.

**Report of the Committee.**

Mr. White then presented the report of the Republican majority of the McClure-Gray Committee—a voluminous document, concluding with a resolution that the petition, not having been presented to the Senate within ten days after organization, cannot as the law now stands be acted upon by the Senate.

**A New Way of Selecting Contested Election Committees.**

Accompanying the report was a bill regulating the manner of the selection of committees to try contested election cases. This bill provides for the selection of committees in each house by the cumulative system of voting. Any petition presented at this session shall be acted upon under this act within five days after its passage, if such petition shall be presented within ten days after the swearing in of the Senator or member whose seat is contested.

Mr. Wallace presented the Democratic minority report, which was also voluminous, ending with a resolution to draw a committee in the case at three o'clock.

Mr. Purman, Democrat, presented in writing a long explanation of why he supported the minority report. Adjourned till three P. M.

**Afternoon Session.**

The McClure-Gray contested election case was discussed. Messrs. White and Strang, Republicans, made lengthy arguments for the majority report. Messrs. Buckalew and Wallace, Democrats, spoke against it, and for the minority report.

Mr. Davis, of Berks, Democrat, asked what was to be done if the House should refuse to pass the bill reported by the majority.

Messrs. Fitch and Mumma, Republicans, answered that it was a final—that Republicans of the House would pass it, and the Governor sign it to-night, and that it would embrace the present case.

Mr. Billingfelt, Republican, moved to amend the resolution reported by the majority by adding that the petition cannot be entertained, this session, unless by additional legislation, which was accepted by Mr. White. Adjourned till eight P. M.

**Death of Senator Knight.**

Before the assembling of either house this evening, the Republican Senate held an caucus, and the death of Senator Knight, Democrat, of Bucks, was reported among the members, and spectators gathered in the capitol, creating another sensation.

**The McClure-Gray Debate**

Was resumed. Mr. Mumma, Republican, supported the majority report.

Mr. Petriken, Democrat, asked if Senator Gray should be allowed to vote on this question?

Mr. Mumma replied most assuredly, after the magnificent precedent set by the Democrats last winter, when Senator Evans, Republican, opposed the old system of drawing contesting committees by lottery, and advocated the new bill.

Mr. Purman, Democrat, said this discovery of a defect in the old law came rather late.

Mr. Allen, Republican, spoke for the majority report.

Mr. Purman, Democrat, made a lengthy speech against the majority report.

Mr. Billingfelt, Republican, favored the new law for drawing committees, but thought McClure to have a fair trial on a new plan, because he doubted the application or the justice of the old law of May 7, 1838. He could not vote for the bill as it stood, he should feel like giving the contestant a trial under the act of 1839.

Mr. White, Republican, closed the argument for the majority report, pronouncing the old lottery system of drawing committees as a gambling operation, in which the Republicans would have been defeated, and W. Gray and Gray being excluded, while the Democrats would have sixteen names.

Mr. Buckalew, Democrat, protested against the introduction of partisan feeling into the discussion.

Mr. Billingfelt's amendment being incorporated, the resolution fell; yeas fifteen Republicans, to fifteen Democrats—Evans, Republican, being dead, and Delamater, Republican, being paired with Knight, Democrat, absent.

Mr. Wallace, Democrat, then offered a resolution for drawing a committee in the case at half-past ten. Lost by a tie vote, as above, the Democrats voting aye and the Republicans no.

Mr. Brooke's resolution to adjourn over to-morrow to attend the funeral of Mr. Evans then came up.

Mr. Davis, Democrat, of Berks, said the Democrats could not consent to leave here to-morrow, as it was the last day on which McClure's petition could be considered. In voting against this resolution they meant no disrespect to the deceased.

Mr. Brooke sincerely hoped some arrangement might be reached by which Senators could pay proper respect to the dead Senator's remains.

The resolution was defeated—yeas 14, all Republicans; nays 16, all Democrats, except Davis, of Philadelphia.

Mr. Billingfelt, Republican, offered the following: That so much of section 131 of the act of Assembly regulating contested elections for Governor, Senators and members of the House of Representatives, approved July 2, 1839, be and the same is so altered and amended as to allow ten days for the formation of a committee. Passed.

Mr. Wallace, Democrat, at once objected to its consideration.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning.

Speaker Rutan will not issue the writ for the special election in Senator Evans's District till the day after the burial.

## HARRISBURG.

### Death of Senator Evans—The Vacancy—Senator McKnight Ill—The McClure-Gray Case.

Special Correspondence of the [illegible]

HARRISBURG, P[illegible] February 10, 1872.

[illegible] respectedly that it has [illegible] a gloom [illegible] particularly over the Senate, which body he had many warm friends in both political parties.

It is understood that Speaker Rutan will issue a warrant next Wednesday for an election to fill the vacancy in twenty days. It is thought, however, that not even this prompt action will enable the Legislature to finish the business before it within the time originally set; and it is already considered pretty certain that the resolution to adjourn on the 28th of March will have to be rescinded.

Senator Jesse W. Knight, (Democrat,) of the Seventh district, is lying seriously ill at his home in Bristol, and although the latest news reports his condition somewhat improved, yet considerable apprehension is entertained as to his ultimate recovery.

Nothing is definitely known as to the probable character of the report of the committee on Colonel McClure's petition. The general impression, however, seems to be that the Republican members of the Committee will report that there is no law in existence which authorizes a contest this session—accompanied with a bill providing for the appointment of a committee to investigate and determine upon the case during the session. There is no doubt that such a bill would receive general Republican support, nor any question of its passage unless the Democrats should oppose it in the Senate, in which contingency nothing could of course be done until after the election of a successor to Senator Evans.

From all that I can learn there is no disposition on the part of the Republican members of the Committee or of the Senate to interpose any obstacles to the fullest inquiry. There seems, however, to be but one opinion concerning the present law, which, it is held, is absolutely prohibitory in its character; and that unless changed there can be no contest until the next session of the Legislature. It is something that should whether the Democratic members of the Committee will concur in this view. They will probably present a minority report, taking the ground that the Legislature has power to construe the statute liberally, and in favor of the appointment of an Investigating Committee at once.

### EVANS INVESTIGATION.

**Testimony as to the Distribution of Money.**

At the meeting of the Evans Investigating Committee in Harrisburg Thursday evening, Mr. Charles Wister, of Germantown, Philadelphia, was examined. He testified that he knew D. C. Forney, but not Mr. Evans; did not know of any fees to Evans or paid to him by D. C. Forney; knew nothing of the division of moneys received from Evans, except by hearsay; heard of a certain gentleman receiving some, but did not personally know of it; if that was evidence he would be compelled to give it; if not, he must decline answering; he had heard something about Mr. D. C. Forney in Philadelphia [the Committee decided that Forney's declarations would be competent evidence]. Mr. Forney told me he received $5,000 as an agent; he had been promised $10,000, but got only $5,000; this conversation was last summer, shortly after the expose; he did not state at what time it was received. [In answer to the question, from whom he received the money, witness said he did not want to volunteer any testimony, but would answer if it must. The committee decided that he should answer.] He said he received it at Harrisburg from John W. Geary. Mr. Forney made no secret of the matter, and he considered it a perfect and legitimate transaction, and that he received the money for services rendered in collecting this money; he did not have any papers or receipts; Forney said he had given Evans considerable time and influence at Washington, and had been employed as a sort of agent; he did not directly mention any one else connected with the transaction and receiving money; could not name any other as connected with it.

In response to examination by Mr. Hewitt, witness said Forney said he had been cheated out of the other $5,000, and he was willing to take the balance at any time; had two conversations with him, and this testimony includes both; Forney named another person at Washington, but witness did not remember the name.

**The Epidemic in Hkrrisburg.**

The diarrhœa of late so prevalent in Harrisburg is yet unabated, and its cause not yet satisfactorily explained. The theories are many and conflicting, but it is generally conceded that it does not arise from the water. The *State Journal* looks upon it as the precursor of a cholera epidemic, and says:

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## THE AMERICAN CASE.

**London Journals Advocate a Moderate Course.**

LONDON, February 12.—The London press this morning, in discussing the Alabama question, advocates a moderate course on the part of the English Government.

**Minister Schenck Maintains the Dignity of His Government—Bismarck Offers His Good Offices.**

NEW YORK, February 12.—A special London dispatch says that Minister Schenck has communicated a note to the English Government on the recent language of Gladstone which was deemed an imputation on the good faith of the United States. The note is regarded as a proper assertion of the dignity of his Government, and will, it is likely, be answered in a most friendly spirit deprecating any diplomatic application to words used in the heat of debate. Bismarck has offered to the Governments of Washington and London, his good offices for effecting an agreement in relation to the old claims. The English Government is anxious to avoid any misunderstanding with the authorities at Washington and a compromise is hoped for at an early day.

**English Workingmen Opposed to the Course of the Government—A Movement in Parliament to Oust the Ministry.**

Special to the World.]

LONDON, February 12.—The conflict of opinion in England on the Alabama claims increases. A meeting of workingmen will soon be held to oppose the course of the British Government, and demand an immediate settlement of the claims, the sum paid to the United States to be subsequently recovered of the builders of the vessels which caused the damage. A party in Parliament is preparing to move the resignation of the present Ministry, on the grounds of its blundering incapacity. Another party are said to be also preparing a motion of censure, which shall propose a settlement of the American claims on a new basis.

**Bismarck Does Not Offer Mediation.**

LONDON, February 12.—The report appearing in the *Telegraph* that Bismarck offered mediation between Great Britain and the United States has been ascertained to be unfounded.

**Our Members of the Board of Arbitration in Paris.**

PARIS, February 12.—Caleb Cushing, J. Bancroft Davis, Wm. M. Evarts and M. R. Waite have arrived in Paris, and are in close consultation in regard to business before the Geneva Board of Arbitration.

**Public Opinion in Germany—Our Case Not Yet Published in London.**

LONDON, February 12.—The *Daily News* asserts that public opinion in Germany is strong in its condemnation of the course pursued by the United States Government with the Alabama claims.

Mr. Gladstone, replying to a question in the House of Commons to-day, stated that the case of the American Government, submitted to the Arbitrators by the President, had not yet been printed, and it would therefore be unjust to publish the document here at present.

**The Austrian View—England Afraid of the Consequences of Her Course.**

VIENNA, February 12.—The *Presse* of this city, in an article upon the claims of America before the arbitrators at Geneva, says England has probably learned that the opinion of the Board of Arbitration is unfavorable to her, and that nation during the civil war in America, and fears the consequences of her course toward the United States.

**Prayers for the Prevention of War.**

LONDON, February 12.—Prayers were offered yesterday in all the churches at Sheffield for the prevention of war between England and the United States.

**The English View—Sir Stafford Northcote's Speech.**

The following is an extract from a speech made by Sir Stafford Northcote (one of the ablest members of the English Government on the recent language of Gladstone which was deemed an imputation on the good faith of the United States. The note is regarded as a proper assertion of the dignity of his Government, and will, it is likely, be answered in a most friendly spirit deprecating any diplomatic application to words used in the heat of debate. Bismarck has offered to the Governments of Washington and London, his good offices for effecting an agreement in relation to the old claims. The English Government is anxious to avoid any misunderstanding with the authorities at Washington and a compromise is hoped for at an early day.

In response to examination by Mr. Hewitt, witness said Forney said he had been cheated out of the other $5,000, and he was willing to take the balance at any time; had two conversations with him, and this testimony includes both; Forney named another person at Washington, but witness did not remember the name.

**The Epidemic in Hkrrisburg.**

The diarrhœa of late so prevalent in Harrisburg is yet unabated, and its cause not yet satisfactorily explained. The theories are many and conflicting, but it is generally conceded that it does not arise from the water. The *State Journal* looks upon it as the precursor of a cholera epidemic, and says:

"It is a well known fact among the medical fraternity that preceding a cholera season the diarrhœa prevails to a greater or less extent. The atmosphere is now charged with the fatal poison, and only needs the aggravation of heat and other attending influences to make it cholera of a virulent type. All the symptoms, as they exist here and elsewhere, sustain this view of the subject, and the admonition is in good time to enable all to prepare for the dread monster—*Asiatic cholera*—whose presence in this country the coming summer may be confidently anticipated."

**Bogus Legislation.**

In the State Senate on Wednesday, Mr. Petrikin, of Huntingdon county, introduced a preamble and resolution charging that a Senate bill of last session, entitled "An act relating to legal proceedings by or against corporations," is made to appear as having been considered and passed by both houses, and private investigation having revealed the fact that said bill was not considered and passed, it is resolved that the Committee on Judiciary General be instructed to inquire into the truth of these allegations, the bill referred to in Mr. Petrikin's resolution is supposed to be the one relative to railroad crossings, three attempts to secure the passage of which have been made at the present session of 1871. The journals of the House and Senate were manipulated by the lobby, and the bill in question received all the checks showing its progress through the Legislature. It was finally sent to the Governor, who was assured, it is said, by several prominent Senators that it was a final—that Republicans of the House would pass it, and the Governor sign it to-night, and that it would embrace the present case.

**Miner Killed Near New Brighton, Pa.**

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Commercial.

NEW BRIGHTON, PA., February 12, 1872.

William Stephenson, a miner employed at Glass's coal bank, near this place, was this instantly killed about eleven o'clock this forenoon by the falling of a mass of slate, which buried him under it. He leaves a wife and four small children.

## The Governor of Florida Impeached.

TALLAHASSE, FLA., February 12.—Governor Reed has been impeached. Mr. Day, of Virginia, a Republican, has been appointed Governor.

**Making Rooms Comfortable.**

[From the N. Y. Post.]

There are a great many houses magnificently furnished, but comparatively few which succeed in combining comfort with splendor. Many of the most expensively furnished rooms here are totally destitute of the latter essential, are surrendered to a cold, gaunt finery, exquisitely depressing. The most thoroughly comfortable room is a half library, half drawing room. Let there be book shelves to the height of five feet round the room. Cover the tops of the book shelves with marble, and fill them on plenty of china, which always looks cheerful. Let the walls be hung with pictures and prints. Put vases of flowers here and there. Let a small table be filled with judiciously straddling legs, and a happy turn for recovering its balance when it gets knocks which will send an ordinary table smash to the floor. Get rid of an easy chair. Let the small table always carry after dusk an antique candlestick, of Queen Anne or George the First's time, if possible, or, when plate is generally inferior to that from 1600 to 1750—holding a huge wax candle. Let every chair be low, the seat very long,—not to invite to sleep, but to suggest that whatever else you neglect, do not omit to have the kind legs of your chair shorter than those in front. Have foot-stools lurking in corners, not here they will be huddled over. In winter let a glorious wood fire blaze on the hearth. Don't let your room be too full of furniture, or too much of a near a window. Good pens, sharp penknives, nice paper. Keep an eye on the thermometer. Allow no loud ticking clock in the room. Let a delightful, ingratiating mannered dog—who, as William III. said of Goldsphin, is never in the way and never out of the way. He understands the habits of canine decorum, and is ever ready to reciprocate caresses—lie on the soft, thick hearth rug. Fill this room with pleasant people as often as possible.

Here are a few hints for the reform of those chambers of ghastly splendor to which we have alluded, and which at present are as cheerful as the long gallery at the Chesney Wold.

**Things Not Ten Years Old.**

[From the New York Herald.]

The United States have, time and again, been regarded by England as proper subjects for the display of her power. When we objected to British cruisers searching our merchantmen she sent a squadron here and burned our capitol, and would have continued her depredations but for the victory at New Orleans. When we claimed our natural boundary in Oregon we were compelled to abandon our rights, and when we objected to Nova Scotia came the nerves of the timid Polk and the trembling Buchanan. When we seized the persons of notorious rebels on the high seas—in the case of Mason and Slidell—we were commanded to surrender them in the most offensive manner. We were then in a death struggle with the South, and Palmerston's menace was well timed and successful. During the rebellion England paid as little attention to our rights, to the usages of nations and to the professions of friendship and our ties of blood as she did to the protests of China on the opium question. When the South broke into rebellion she made haste to recognize the belligerents, as a people entitled to a nation's rights, even before a battle was fought. During our war English money sustained the confederacy. English ships, manned by English seamen, destroyed our commerce, and even the right of privateering, which had been solemnly denounced as piracy by England, was accepted so far as the South was concerned, even after we had expressed a desire to unite in her declaration. The promptness with which we yielded to the Palmerston policy of pressure, especially in the Trent affair, is so freshly remembered in England that she naturally reverts to it now in the Alabama question.

KATE FIELD, writing from London, ridicules Charles Kingsley for his sermon on the illness of the Prince of Wales. Here is one quotation from her letter:

"Canon Kingsley is quite sure that in visiting [illegible] with typhoid fever [illegible]rts as the heart of [illegible] I hope, I trust, I do. It is very [illegible] at God has carried it—the typhoid—to the house of [illegible] charity which [illegible] us thrust aside henceforth in dignified disgust those who sit in the seat of the scornful, the cynic and the slanderer, the ribald and the rebel." And so it goes on, as wretched a piece of literary work as I ever listened to—illogical as I show; unmanly, unworthy of an Englishman basely snobbish."

MENTION is made in an article by Thomas N. Knox, on "Hotels," of a cheerful tribe of savage which make their home on the banks of the Amoor river. These people are very affectionate and kind hearted—perhaps somewhat too much so. They enjoy the belief that the spirits of the dead haunt the places where the breath passes from the body. When a stranger of winning manners and gentle disposition comes among them they treat him with the greatest kindness, and are pleased to have him remain; they object to his departure, and if he manifests a desire to move on they kill him in order to keep his good and kindly spirit among them. In visiting these Amoor folks it is advisable to be ill-tempered as possible, so that they will be glad to be rid of you both in mind and spirit. We know of many persons who might go there with perfect safety.

THE Washington letter writer for the *World* is taking a "bird's eye view" of the Presidential question. Here is the one thing certain: "Up to the present time the only fact which can be surely counted on for the next Presidential campaign is that the whole Democratic party, and a body of Republicans more or less formidable, will be opposed to Grant. Whether and how such opposition will be combined and rendered effective is not certain."

APROPOS of the African diamond discoveries, it is remarked that a savan named M. Collas, published a communication in *Le Monde*, of February 3, 1870, in which he assumed that the Cape of Good Hope was on the border of a diamond field extending toward the E. N. E. Ten months later the news reached Europe of the discovery of the rich mines in that region.

THE New York *Sun* says J. Bancroft Davis, Deputy Secretary of State, prepared the American "case," which became so famous all at once.

## WASHINGTON.

### Resignation of Col. Forney.

### Journalistic Independence Better Than a Fat Office.

**Special Dispatch to the Commercial.**

WASHINGTON, D. C. February 11, 1872.

The resignation of Collector Forney excites great comment here. The first difference between Forney and the President arose from representations to the former that he was expected in his newspaper to oppose McClure strongly and support Gray in the late contest in Philadelphia. This Forney absolutely refused to do in the style it was demanded that he should. Those who were in consultation with Colonel Forney while here, give out that his resignation indicates open hostility to Gen. Grant on the part of one class of Pennsylvania politicians.

Before leaving to-night, Col. Forney gave his friends the following among other reasons for resigning: "He feels that it is time to cry 'Halt!' once more to the desperate men who are trying to use the name of Gen. Grant to keep them in or to help them to offices. He believes in the conciliation of the old, dissatisfied anti-slavery leaders of the country. He pleads for good relations between Grant and Sumner, between Grant and Greeley, Grant and Fenton, and insists that what Mr. Lincoln did with men dissatisfied with his administration, Gen. Grant ought to do with men dissatisfied with his."

By Associated Press.]

**COL. FORNEY'S LETTER.**

# Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1872.

It may not be generally known that the report of the committee against the Code, which has been produced at no little labor and cost, has been unanimously approved by both branches of the Legislature at Harrisburg. And so we have heard the last of the Code at present, probably forever, and persons having the book are at liberty to burn it any moment.

It is reported that Col. T. A. SCOTT and his friends have virtually withdrawn from the Union Pacific Road, although he is yet President of that Company. The interest that has succeeded to the management is understood to be the New York Central. The experience of the last two months with the snows of the mountains has seriously qualified the prospect of the road for all time to come. Meanwhile Col. SCOTT has been pushing his conquests in a more genial climate, looking to a continental crossing that will be liable to no extraordinary obstruction.

Now that Amnesty, the first of the measures recommended in the President's message, has been defeated in a Republican Senate, let us see how Civil Service, no less distinctly recommended, and no less earnestly desired by the country, will fare there. What will come of the leadership of Senators MORTON, CONKLING, etc., the country is curious to see. At the last session they were strong enough to depose Mr. SUMNER, and lend an almost solid majority for San Domingo, till the whole country crying "Halt!" made them obey. Now let us see how they will lead on a question concerning which the whole country cries "Forward!"

THE instruction given by the House of Representatives—the vote being 140 to 37—to the Committee of Ways and Means, to report a bill exempting tea and coffee from duty, is highly important progress in settling principles where, by to gauge subsequent action on the tariff. Free tea and coffee of course means cheaper tea and coffee. We wish spices might be added. The free traders see plainly that free tea and coffee don't mean free iron or the free importation of other staple articles which we can make at home. The American laborer does perceive that the free importation of iron and other articles that we can make simply means reduced wages or no work. So the free traders do take like free tea and coffee, though it is just what they profess, and only a few of them had the courage to vote to keep the duty on. The policy of this instruction rigidly adhered to goes far to settle the question of the tariff and protection. Let us hope that it is no sham.

It seems that, after all, the income tax for the year 1871 is to be collected. At least the Commissioner of Internal Revenue has addressed a letter to all Collectors, requesting information as to the required number of blanks desired by the Assessors in their various districts. As soon as this information is received an order for printing the blanks will be given, followed by instructions to the Assessors as to how to collect the tax in question, and by a general murmur of discontent and dissatisfaction throughout the country. For persistently keeping up an imposition which yields so little but annoys so much, Congress will, of course, be duly commended. Notwithstanding that the law no longer exists, yet since it was made retroactive when first enacted, taxing the income, as well as the year in which the law was passed before its enactment, the people are to be made to pay the tax during the current year, subsequent to the expiration of all law for its collection. "Necessity knew no law," it was urged when the tax was first imposed; and it would seem that Congress in this particular vastly resembles necessity.

THE order of General GRANT looking to the abolition of the General Order System in the New York Custom House, is another proof of his willingness to institute reform whenever abuses are shown to exist. It is true that Mr. A. T. STEWART says that he laid the facts before the President long ago, without securing for them any attention; but Mr. STEWART must understand that individual complaints are liable to go for nothing—and more is the pity Cui sach is the fact. It is one of the worst evils of the time that the non-partisan class in the community exert so little influence. A well polled party leader of a faction, though of little intelligence or real worth, is potent where men like Mr. STEWART can scarcely obtain a hearing. General GRANT has directed the Secretary of the Treasury and the New York Collector to prepare some substitute for the present system. While not doubting Gen. GRANT's intention to produce a cure, we doubt the efficacy of the proposed treatment. The merchants should be consulted. To some extent the evils complained of have come into existence under Mr. BOUTWELL; and as for the Collector, too much is known to justify great expectations of reform from that quarter. Collectors have not proved themselves a race of reformers. Still the attempt is to be made, and whatever is the result, there can be no doubting Gen. GRANT's intention to cure the evils complained of.

In due time we shall, doubtlessly, learn that in India intense excitement has been caused by the assassination of the Governor General, Earl MAYO. According to the cable dispatch the crime was committed at Port Blair in the Andaman islands, whither we may suppose that his Lordship had gone on a visit of inspection to the convict establishment. The Andaman islands are situated in the Bay of Bengal, and are inhabited by a race of the most absolute savages anywhere known to exist. They are dwarfs, the tallest of them not being more than four feet six or seven inches high, and go literally naked, except as they cover themselves with a thick coating of mud and oil as a protection against the musquitoes and other insects which swarm in the islands. No foreigner is permitted to live among them, and the mere sight of one throws the little savages into a state of unconfinable rage, a fact which may be the result of kidnapping operations formerly carried on against them. Near the end of last century the English formed a convict settlement on the islands; which after a few years was abandoned on account of the unhealthiness of the climate as well as the continued hostility of the natives. When on the suppression of the mutiny or rebellion of 1857 the English rulers of India were at a loss what to do with those Sepoys whom they were unwilling to put to death, Lord CANNING, then Governor General, resolved to transport them to the Andamans, care being taken to select or to make a more healthy situation than the one which had been formerly abandoned. The hostility of the natives was no longer a serious objection, as the great number of convicts made it necessary to provide so large a military force for their guard as to suffice for a defense of the colony against aboriginal attacks.

In the absence of details it seems likely that Earl MAYO has fallen a victim to the resentment of the rich Mussulman, SYUD KHAN, who was year before last sentenced in Calcutta to transportation for life. Though he owed his wealth to the English Government, he was discovered to have been using his money and influence for many years for the overthrow of British rule, in connection with those Wahabee fanatics who regard the restoration of Mohammedanism as a religious duty, and who spend their whole time in preaching a *jehad* or *Crusecentade*, or holy war against the English. SYUD KHAN (if we rightly remember his name) when arrested was at first simply detained in honorable custody under special powers conferred by law on the Governor General. But the English lawyers in Calcutta at once raised a clamor that the detention was illegal, and that British rights were grossly violated in the person of this Mussulman subject. A writ of *habeas corpus* was, therefore, taken out, and the Government, in order to prevent the release of the fanatical conspirator, was compelled to bring him to a regular trial, with the result already indicated. He was sentenced to transportation for life. It is remarkable that the Governor General, familiar of course with Wahabee theological morality and character, and warned by the murder of the English judge, who tried one of the Wahabee convicts, should have exposed himself to the blow which has struck him. But men of his race are apt to be remiss and clumsy in guarding against assassination.

## THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

No other department of the United States Government is so little exposed to the scrutiny and criticism of the public as the Department of Foreign Affairs. Few persons, even of those best informed, possess the minute and extensive knowledge of other countries and their political relations, which qualifies them to exercise the functions of supervision and judgment concerning the manner in which the gentlemen at Washington to whom our foreign interests are confided perform the duties of their office. Trust in their efficiency and fidelity is therefore a matter of simple necessity, and when not carried too far, or exercised in entire contempt of obvious facts, it is a tasteful dictate of good sense. Upon the whole, the deferential attitude which the people are wont to maintain towards their rulers in reference to foreign affairs is justified by the history of the country, and almost every reader is able to recall instances in which hasty or passionate popular judgments, involving issues no more momentous as those of war, have with evident advantage been surrendered or suppressed in respect for a wave of the hand, or for a few quietly spoken words of prudence from the capital.

It may, however, be true that we sometimes permit our spirit of deference and submission in this direction to sink into indifference, real or seeming. It may be that, in mere humility resting on conscious ignorance of the high matters with which our Foreign Department has to do, the people now and then fail to take due and sufficient notice of acts and measures which, though pertaining to affairs in one sense foreign, yet involve no extraordinary mysteries, and demand no unusual or recondite knowledge for their comprehension. Thus, in view of the present prominence of the State Department in connection with the question of the Alabama claims, it is difficult not to think of some of the antecedents of the Department under its present administration. Not going farther back, we fancy that few men of honor and gentlemanly feeling in the country remember the removal of Mr. MOTLEY with any comfort or satisfaction, or are able to recall the subsequent controversy concerning it without mortification and shame. Then, the impression is undoubtedly very general that the Hispano-Cuban relations have not been conducted in a manner to reflect credit on the Government of the United States. In spite of the prevalent conviction that Mr. CATACAZY was an impudent adventurer, without honor or delicacy, and that the pretense of peculiar sympathy between Russia and this country was a mischievous affectation and delusion, it is believed by many and suspected by more that the American side of the quarrel was conducted without wisdom or dignity, and in a spirit justly offensive to the CZAR and compromising to our national reputation. But these are not the only grounds of the misgiving with which many look upon the State Department. It has transpired within the last few days that that excellent gentleman, and most worthy ambassador, Baron GEROLT, was compelled to resign his place in Washington in consequence of the suggestions and representations of the American Government. Mr. FISH was of course active in the affair, and "the charge against the Baron was that of undue zeal in the service of his government during the late war with France," the same charge used for the removal of CATACAZY. In connection with the recall of the German representative it is exceedingly comfortable and edifying to remember with what punctilious fidelity the United States Government fulfilled its obligations of neutrality towards the countries at war, a subject on which interesting light has been lately cast by the PLACE trial.

In reference to the management of the Alabama claims in accordance with the Treaty of Washington, perhaps it is well to say little at present. But people will remember that Mr. SUMNER was made to give place on the Senate Committee of Foreign Relations to the present incumbent immediately before the case was presented to the Arbitrators. Whether this was the most judicious arrangement that could be made, is a question which we do not undertake to decide

# The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, February 17, 1872.

## STATE POLITICS.

A correspondent who affirms that he knows whereof he writes, disputes utterly the classification of the Harrisburg correspondent of the Beaver *Radical*—who we are assured is not Mr. Quay—of the delegates chosen to the Republican State Convention. At the time of the writing about fifty-three delegates had been chosen, which are classified by our correspondent on Governor as follows: Jordon, 16; Hartranft, 12; Ketchum, 9; White, 5; Lilly, 3; uninstructed and not committed, 8. The uninstructed and not committed are: Lowry, 3; Crawford, 3; Bradford, 3; Lebanon, 1; Venango, 1. Of these Jordon stands much the best chance to get the three from Crawford, one from Venango and one from Lebanon, and Ketchum the best chance for the three from Bradford. The latter are instructed for Mercur for Supreme Judge. There are two of these delegates so far instructed for Williams for Supreme Judge.

The Erie *Gazette* thinks delegates to the State and National Conventions should be selected by the people. It says: "While we are willing to accord the county committee every degree of popularity, judgment, and discretion, we believe the better mode for the party would be served by the calling either of a delegate or mass convention to appoint delegates to go to the State Convention from the county. The county committee for some years past have appointments out at all times in a manner eminently proper that the people should have a full and free expression and say, themselves, who the delegates shall be. At this convention, if one is called, it would be in order at the time to declare our national politics, choice for State officers, the electoral ticket, etc., and arrange any little details necessary to insure the regular county nominating ticket being elected."

The Lancaster *Express* is not pleased with the action of the State Central Committee in assuming the right to appoint delegates to the National Convention, and calls on the county committee, which meets next Monday, to repudiate it. The *Express* says: "It is now clear that the only portion of the party in this county who indorse the action of the State Committee, in taking the election of delegates to the National Convention out of the hands of the people, are the ring masters who sympathize with the Central ring in whose interest the State Committee were set up. The fact is apparent to all candid observers that our people will not be satisfied with any action of the County Committee short of a repudiation of the attempted usurpation of the Central ring. They expect the committee to sit with open doors, that their constituents may know what is done and what is said, and by whom; and that the vote of every member be put on the record for the information of his constituents. For the committee to sit with closed doors in determining such a question, would be putting themselves in the light of a 'secret organization,' which would be peculiarly obnoxious to the Republican ideas of the party in this county."

The Bloomsburg *Republican* also indulges in a growl at the State Central Committee. It says: "The State Central Committee have decided that the State Convention shall select the delegates to the National Convention. We are sorry to find a repetition of the blunder, that was made four years ago. It can not but be regarded as an effort of the majority to tyranize over the minority. By throwing it into the hands of a few it becomes more convenient for political managers to do the work effectively. This is just what the people do *not* want. We know that in most cases delegates to the State Convention are selected in a direct form, but exception to the work of that Convention and consequently are not competent to represent the will of the people beyond that. As a party we want an honest expression of sentiments and are averse to complicating its work, and we hold that the people of our district are better able to express their wants than any congregation of politicians outside of its borders. We hope the Convention will refuse to wrest this privilege from the people."

And now comes the Mechanicsburg *Journal*, wanting to know where the Chairman of the County Committee gets the authority to call a meeting, to elect a representative delegate to the State Convention, and to appoint delegates to settle a 'sectional delegate' This is a matter that rests wholly with the people, and they are entitled to a say in the matter. We are not just here with the tunnel of a precedent in the last committee. This makes the matter no better. It was wrong then. It is worse now, by reason of the greater importance of the coming campaign. To allow it to go any further now, without rebuke, would be cowardly, and we do not believe that there will be any need for any such proceeding. Let the delegates be selected in the usual order, by a convention convened fresh from the people, who may thus have a chance to say what they want, and who have delegates foisted upon them by the machinations of an irresponsible committee, manipulated in the interests of selfishness."

At the meeting of the Lycoming County Republican Committee, in Williamsburg, on Saturday, H. C. McCormick, Esq., was named as Senatorial delegate, and Col. L. G. Hulings Representative to the State Convention. A resolution was passed instructing the delegates to support Hon. Wm. M. Armstrong for Supreme Judge; also instructing the delegates whom to support for delegate to the National Convention.

The Republicans of Chester county will hold their county convention on the twelfth of March.

The Lawrence county Republican committee met in New Castle, on Monday, and elected George C. Reis Senatorial and W. C. Harbison Representative delegate to the State Convention. The delegates were instructed to present the name of Col. John M. Power, of Lawrence, for Auditor General, with Gen. Daniel Leasure as second choice. Also resolved that the members of the committee be directed to ascertain the wishes of their constituents as to the propriety of instructing the delegates to the State convention, and that the committee meet to hear and act on their report on the 30th of March.

### Fire in Philadelphia—Narrow Escapes

PHILADELPHIA, February 14.—The explosion of a barrel of cement this morning set fire to F. Roedel & Co.'s shoe factory on North Third street. Tom Hans was seriously burned. Fifteen men and one girl employed in the upper stories made their escape through the roof into adjoining buildings. Brady jumped from the third story window and was slightly injured. Several firemen were hurt by falls. The stores adjoining, occupied by Bibbard, Hubbard, grocers; O. K. Grim & Sons, dry goods; Wasteman & Engerman, tobacconists, were damaged. Total loss $75,000; buildings fully and stocks partially insured.

## THE COUNTY POOR.

### *A Word to the Poor Directors of Allegheny County—An Office Needed in this City.*

Since the abolishment of the office of the Secretary of the County Poor Directors, in Allegheny city, the Guardians of the Poor of Pittsburgh and the Poor Board of Allegheny, have had double duties imposed upon them. The necessity for the re-establishment of an office for the County Home either in this city or Allegheny, is obvious. Scarcely a day passes that cases of charity belonging to the County and not to either of the cities turn up at one or other of the Poor Board offices. As an instance, a man from one of the townships or the South Side boroughs finds it necessary to apply to the authorities for aid. He is directed to the office of the Allegheny Board of Poor Directors, or to the office of the Pittsburgh Board of Guardians, whichever is nearest. Neither of the Boards have any right to take the case in hand, belonging clearly to the county. Where then is the applicant—ten to one same one suffering from drunkenness—to apply? At the County Home, six or seven miles distant from either city. Must an unfortunate creature, sick perhaps, unto death, be told to trudge seven miles into the country for the purpose of finding the proper party to take him or her in charge? That is wrong. It was never intended that the United States Treasurer should provide for every case of the kind, and all because the proper officers of the county have not an office in some central locality where such cases as come within their province may be properly and immediately attended to. This is what the taxes of the county, as well as those of the city, are collected for, and they should be applied to their legitimate uses.

Pittsburgh is the metropolis not only of the county, but of Western Pennsylvania, and here the poor of the county come, or are sent, when in need of relief, and here should be the proper attention to their cases by the proper authorities should certainly be made, and that at once. The County Poor Directors cannot neglect the poor Boards of the two cities to shoulder their duties. No more should they allow the unfortunate poor of the county, who naturally come to Pittsburgh when in need of assistance, to travel seven miles from the city to find some one who attends to the business of the County Board. Just as reasonably might the Pittsburgh Guardians of the Poor order the Allegheny Poor Directors either to meet their respective offices at their respective farms in the country.

The whole trouble can be easily remedied at a very slight expense. The County Board in establishing an office either in this city or Allegheny, where their business can be attended to and which would be doing nothing more than right.

## BURIED ALIVE.

### *Almost a Living Tomb.*

For some time past laborers have been engaged in removing a large embankment of earth on the corner of Main street and Penn avenue. Quite a number of men were engaged in this business yesterday, when an accident occurred which may yet terminate fatally. Several of the men were engaged in shovelling the clay as it was dug from the hill side into carts, while others were employed with pickaxes in reducing the pile. Among the latter was John Miller. He was busily at work when, suddenly, about a ton weight of the earth fell. All of the laborers escaped save him, and he was entirely covered with the earth. As soon as his fellow laborers realized his condition, they set to work to save him from death, and succeeded, after some difficulty, in rescuing him from his perilous position. He was removed to his residence at Shady Side, where he received proper medical attendance. At a late hour last night the physician in attendance expressed hopes of his patient's recovery.

## *BURNED TO A CRISP.*

### *An Old Woman of Eighty-five Falls into the Fire while Drunk and is Burned to Death—A Heart-Sickening Sight.*

Sunday evening about eight o'clock, a sad discovery was made in the basement room of the tenement No. 18 Twentieth street. The upper part of the house is occupied by a German carpenter named John Frenke, who sub-let the basement, a miserable room about fifteen feet under ground, to a poor German woman named Annie Lappert, but better known in the vicinity as "Old Aunty." The latter had supported herself by taking in washing. Between seven and eight o'clock last evening her reputed husband, who is employed at the Atlas Works in a minor position, called at the cellar for the purpose of getting some clothes which he desired to be washed, and as had been his custom to give her a little money. He knocked at the door of her apartment several times, but received no reply. He then visited the upper portion of the house and asked Mr. Frenke what had become of "Old Aunty." Mr. F. said that she must be in her room, as she never went out much on Sundays. The two then went down stairs, and with an ax opened a window which was in the upper portion of the door.

Through this one of the men crawled, and the door, which was fastened with a nail, was opened. A light was procured, and a search discovered the charred remains of "old Aunty" in a sitting position near a table, and not a great distance from the fire place. The knees almost touched the chin, and the head was so bent downward as to hide the face from view. On the head was left a little piece of a night cap, while a few gray hairs which had escaped the flames were curled over the blackened forehead. On one of deceased's knees there was a little piece of bed tick charred, but that was all that could be found of her clothing. The corpse presented a most sickening appearance, while the surroundings lent to the scene an air of desolation, want and misery, that would believe existed in the city. On a table near the bed stood a candle-stick, in which was a piece of charred pine wood, which had evidently furnished light for the unfortunate woman to undress by. A more wretched, miserable abode for a human being than this cellar, cannot be imagined.

From all the neighbors it is learned that the deceased was about eighty-five years of age; that she was addicted to drink, and that she had been seen by a Mr. Hendly, on Saturday, in an intoxicated condition. The grim picture presented last night tells the rest.

It is supposed that the deceased, while under the influence of liquor, had crept toward the fire for the purpose of warming herself, and that she had fallen therein with the result noted.

The Coroner will hold an inquest to-day.

## FINANCE AND TRADE

WEDNESDAY, February 14th, 1872.

The money market is more plentifully furnished with currency than it has been for some days past, and the present interest rates for loans and discounts are a little easier than when last reported. The demand for credits is freely responded to by the banks and private lenders on good security. In general money circles there is considerable more activity than of late, but heretofore business has not unusually been very lively during the first month of the year, prior to the opening of the spring trade.

Two important criticisms have been made from the beginning of this Administration upon the management of the public debt, and both are proving in favor with the people. The first is in its bond purchases the Government ought to prefer interest bearing obligations, and should withdraw them in preference to the non-interest bearing, and that we should buy up those bonds having the highest rate of interest. Both these have been embodied by Mr. Boutwell in his policy and they are not only popular but in accordance with strict economy. He has been urged, and the law allows it, to buy up Ten-forties instead of Five twenties, but the Secretary has wisely refused to do so. Although the latter have advanced above par in gold, he has preferred to diminish his purchases and await results.

The Treasurer receives bids for two million Five-twenties to-day.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

| | Morning. | Noon. | Closing. |
|---|---|---|---|
| U. S. Bonds of 1881 | 115¼ | 115¼ | 115¼ |
| U. S. Bonds of 1862 | 116½ | 116½ | 116½ |
| U. S. Bonds of 1864 | 116¾ | 116¾ | 116¾ |
| U. S. Bonds of 1865 | 116¾ | 116¾ | 116¾ |
| U. S. Bonds of 1865 (new) | 116½ | 116½ | 116½ |
| U. S. Bonds of 1867 | 117½ | 117½ | 117½ |
| U. S. Bonds of 1868 | 118¾ | 118¾ | 118¾ |
| 10-40's | 116½ | 116½ | 116½ |
| Gold | 110¼ | 110¼ | 110¼ |
| Currency 6s | 114¾ | 114¾ | 114¾ |

—James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Gold | 110¼ |
| United States 6s of 1881 | 115¼ |
| United States 5-20s of 1862 | 116½ |
| United States 5-20s of 1864 | 116¾ |
| United States 5-20s of 1865 | 116¾ |
| United States 5-20s of 1865, (new) | 116½ |
| United States 5-20s of 1867 | 117½ |
| United States 5-20s of 1868 | 118¾ |
| 10-40s | 116½ |
| Coupons | 116¾ |
| Currency 6s | 114¾ |
| United States 5-20s, January and July, 1865 | 116¾ |
| United States 5-20s, January and July, 1866 | 116¾ |
| United States 5-20s, January and July, 1867 | 117½ |
| Union Pacific Railroad | |
| Central Pacific Railroad | |
| Currency Pacific | 114½ |

—The following table shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day:

| February 14, 1872. | 10:30 A.M. | 11:30 A.M. | 12:30 P.M. | 1:30 P.M. | 2:30 P.M. | 3:00 P.M. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gold | 110¼ | 110¼ | 110¼ | 110¼ | 110¼ | 110¼ |
| Canton | | | | 29 | 29½ | 29½ |
| Central Union Tel | 21½ | 21½ | 21½ | 21½ | 21½ | 21½ |
| Quicksilver | | | | 31 | 31 | 31 |
| Pacific Mail | 68¾ | 68¾ | 68¾ | 68¾ | 68¾ | 68¾ |
| Adams Express | | 92¾ | | 92¾ | | |
| Wells Fargo Ex | | 64 | | 64 | | |
| American Express | | 64 | | 64½ | | |
| New York Central | 97½ | 97¾ | 97¾ | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ |
| N. Y. Central scrip | 91½ | 91½ | 91½ | 91½ | 91½ | 91½ |
| Erie | 21¾ | 21¾ | 21¾ | 21¾ | 21¾ | 21¾ |
| Michigan Central | 90¾ | 90¾ | 90¾ | 90¾ | 90¾ | 90¾ |
| Michigan Southern | 90¾ | 90¾ | 90¾ | 90¾ | 90¾ | 91 |
| Illinois Central | 132 | 132 | 132 | 132 | 132 | 132 |
| Cleveland & Pittsburgh | 93½ | 93½ | 93½ | 93½ | 93½ | 93½ |
| Chicago & North'n | 74¾ | 74¾ | 74¾ | 74¾ | 74¾ | 74¾ |
| Do. preferred | 111½ | 111½ | 111½ | 111½ | 111½ | 111½ |
| Rock Island | 111¾ | 111¾ | 111¾ | 111¾ | 111¾ | 111¾ |
| St. Paul | 39½ | 39½ | 39½ | 39½ | 39½ | 39½ |
| Do. preferred | 65¾ | 65¾ | 65¾ | 65¾ | 65¾ | 65¾ |
| Wabash | | | | | | |
| Do. preferred | | | | | | |
| Fort Wayne | 95½ | 95½ | 95½ | 95½ | 95½ | 95½ |
| Chicago and Alton | 132 | 132 | 132 | 132 | 132 | 132 |
| Do. preferred | 134 | 134 | 134 | 134 | 134 | 134 |
| Boston, H'fd & E | | 14¾ | | 14¾ | | |
| Hudson | 124 | 124 | 124 | 124 | 124 | 124 |
| New Jersey Central | | | | | | |
| Union Pacific | 32½ | 32½ | 32½ | 32½ | 32½ | 32½ |

| | 2:15 P.M. |
|---|---|
| Tennessee State bonds | 65½ |
| Do. new | 65½ |
| Carolina, July | 70 |
| South Carolina, April | 71 |
| Missouri sixes | 91 |

—Resolutions have been introduced in the South Carolina Legislature declaring that the State debt of South Carolina included in the Treasurer's report of October 31, 1871, and pledging anew the faith and credit of the State for their redemption, prohibiting any further issue of bonds for any purpose whatever, unless authorized by a direct vote of the people of the State, and to adjust and liquidate all loans heretofore effected for the State by the financial agent in New York. A bill has passed in the Senate, and is pending in the House, authorizing the collection within ninety days of over-due taxes, amounting to $1,100,000, at a new tax of $1,000,000 is to be levied to pay the interest on the State debt.

—A plan has been commended by which the present extensive counterfeiting of national bank notes may be avoided to some extent. It proposes a sort of combination of the old system of State banks and the national system, in so far as the matter of engraving is concerned. By it, it is proposed that the Federal Government, instead of engraving both sides of the bill, as now, shall furnish the plate for the back side only, preserving the same designs as at present, and merely transferring the words, "The United States Treasurer [illegible] Official [illegible] to another [illegible] and [illegible] would, and all because the [illegible] of the country have not an office in some central locality where such cases as come within their province may be properly and immediately attended to. This is what the taxes of the county, as well as those of the city, are collected for, and they should be applied to their legitimate uses.

Pittsburgh is the metropolis not only of the county, but of Western Pennsylvania, and here the poor of the county come, or are sent, when in need of relief, and here should be the proper attention to their cases by the proper authorities should certainly be made, and that at once. The County Poor Directors cannot neglect the poor Boards of the two cities to shoulder their duties. No more should they allow the unfortunate poor of the county, who naturally come to Pittsburgh when in need of assistance, to travel seven miles from the city to find some one who attends to the business of the County Board. Just as reasonably might the Pittsburgh Guardians of the Poor order the Allegheny Poor Directors either to meet their respective offices at their respective farms in the country.

The whole trouble can be easily remedied at a very slight expense. The County Board in establishing an office either in this city or Allegheny, where their business can be attended to and which would be doing nothing more than right.

## BURIED ALIVE.

### *Almost a Living Tomb.*

For some time past laborers have been engaged in removing a large embankment of earth on the corner of Main street and Penn avenue. Quite a number of men were engaged in this business yesterday, when an accident occurred which may yet terminate fatally. Several of the men were engaged in shovelling the clay as it was dug from the hill side into carts, while others were employed with pickaxes in reducing the pile. Among the latter was John Miller. He was busily at work when, suddenly, about a ton weight of the earth fell. All of the laborers escaped save him, and he was entirely covered with the earth. As soon as his fellow laborers realized his condition, they set to work to save him from death, and succeeded, after some difficulty, in rescuing him from his perilous position. He was removed to his residence at Shady Side, where he received proper medical attendance. At a late hour last night the physician in attendance expressed hopes of his patient's recovery.

## PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY, February 14, 1872.

REMARKS.—The weather has "gone back" upon those who hoped for an early resumption of navigation. Early on Tuesday night it blew up cold, and remains so at the present writing, late Wednesday evening. During the day it has been cold and blustery, which rendered business on the streets very unpleasant. When the ice "breaks up" and navigation is resumed, we will make a note of it, but such things are no more prophesies. The markets are firm, steady, and generally unchanged.

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce for the past two weeks:

| | Last week. | This week. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Flour, bbls | 3,693 | 4,946 | 8,639 |
| Apples, bbls | 1,999 | 2,282 | 4,091 |
| Cheese, boxes | | 541 | 541 |
| Corn, sacks | 4,620 | 4,186 | 8,806 |
| Wheat, sacks | 1,838 | 5,073 | 6,911 |
| Barley, sacks | 1,419 | 2,696 | 4,115 |
| Rye, sacks | 1,475 | 1,194 | 2,669 |
| Oats, sacks | 12,122 | 9,596 | 21,618 |
| Butter, packages | 240 | 390 | 630 |
| Bacon, pieces | 11,343 | 5,554 | 16,899 |
| Bacon, tierces | 505 | 300 | 805 |

Following are the wholesale prices unless otherwise noted:

APPLES—Demand fair; prime eating and cooking, $4 50@5 00 ₱ bbl; fair $4 00; common $3 00@3 50; fancy are held at $5@5 50. Receipts 490 bbls.

ASHES—Demand moderate, sales unchanged, at 4½@4¾c; common 4@4½c; potash 9¾@10c; pearls 10¾@11c ₱ lb.

APPLE BUTTER—The demand is more active with sales of prime at 60@65c ₱ gallon; inferior grades rule lower.

BEANS—We are reported a fair demand for Navy at $2 60@2 70 ₱ bush.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—Demand active, with sales at $5@5 50 ₱ barrel; $3 75@4 00 ₱ cwt.

HOMINY—There is limited demand, with sales at 7s@8c ₱ lb.

BROOMS—Market quiet and unchanged. We quote fancy at $4 50; No. 1, $4 00; No. 2 $3 50; No. 3, $2 75; common, $2 25@2 50.

CANDLES—We quote—Boxed 4s-lb cans $1 50 per doz; 8-lb cans $3 00 per dozen; 1-lb cans $6 00 per dozen; Imperial $5; $2 25 and $1 00 per dozen for different sizes.

BUTTER—Receipts 136 packages. The supply of prime is below the demand and is held firmly at 25s 27c ₱ lb; medium to common 12s15c; grease butter 10c.

BACON AND PROVISIONS—The market is quiet, firm and unchanged. Receipts 11,343 pieces bacon, 505 tierces, 1,554; the c s, 39. We quote as follows: Sugar-cured hams 12¾@13c; sugar-cured shoulders 8¾c; plain do 7c; plain shoulders 6½c; sugar-cured sides 9¾c; canvassed bacon 11c; dried beef 16¾c; mess pork $15; ham mess $18 50; lard in tierces for steamed, 9¾c; kettle 10c; lard in kegs and buckets 10¾@11c; pigs' feet per keg $2 25.

CORN—Sales of XXX at $12 00 per bbl; large barrels $11 00@13 00; extra cured $9 00@10 00.

CHEESE—Receipts 541 boxes. Prices are firm at the following figures: New York Goshen at 16s 16½c; Ohio do 15s15½c; Ohio factory 14s14½c; dairy 13@15c.

CANDLES—Mould, 11c; stearine, 14 ounces, 13½c; full weight, 16c; star, 14 ounces, 19c; full weight, 19½c.

CONCENTRATED LYE—Sales at $6 00 for Pennsylvania; other brands $5 00 to $5 50.

CARROT OIL—Standard brands at 21¾@22c. Demand active.

CRANBERRIES—We are reported a fair demand at the following rates: Sarwin's Bell at $12 50@13 00; Early Blacks $9 00 ₱ bbl; Howes $8 00@8 50.

CEMENT—Market unchanged. We quote: Boesen's Hydraulic $3 50@3 75; Johnson $2 25; Rosendale $4 00@4 50; Calcined plaster $4 50; Land plaster $4 50.

DRESSED HOGS—Supply light and prices nominally 8c5½ ₱ lb. Market dull.

FEATHERS—Demand fair. FOREIGN—There is an increased demand, and we quote as follows: Dried apples 7s8c; evaporated apples 12@13c; peaches, pared 20@22c; unpared 8@9c; mixed 7¾@8c; quarters 5s6c; currants, new crop, 10c; old 8c; layer raisins, per box, $3 90; half box $2; Muscatel, per box, $3 50@4 00.

EGGS—Strictly fresh are in demand and command 24@25c ₱ dozen. Receipts 1,194 packages slightly on the increase, though as yet short of the demands of the trade.

FLOUR—As reported yesterday there has been an advance in mill rates. We are also reported an advance on the following: Extra family $6 50@7 00, for which we note below. Receipts since our last 855 bbls. Following are the current quotations of the Market: Superfine—Nothing offering. Extra $6 00; Pan Handle, southern amber, ½ bs $7 90; Morning Glory, fine white, ½ bs $7 50. Reduction in sacks. Store: amber $8 25 ₱ bbl; Snow Flake $8 00; Eagle Mills $7 50; Lily $7 75; Crossley $7 25. Brand $7 25. Country brands are held firmly at $6 00@7 00.

FEATHERS—We are reported a fair demand, with sales of No 1 live geese at 67a70c to the trade; store 65a68c; mixed 60a66c, as per quality.

GROCERIES—We are reported with an active market at unchanged prices, and continue to quote as follows: Coffee—Rio, fair, 20c; prime 20½; good 21; choice 21½@c; Java 30a31c; Laguayra 27a28c; Mocha 46c; roasted coffee, loose and in cans 3 packages, 28c ₱ lb. Sugars—Refined, crushed, granulated and powdered 13¾c, 2lt loaf 14¾c; A c coffee 12¾c; B 12¾c; Ex C 12¾c; C 12c; C 11¾c; yellow 11¾c; P R sugars, choice 11½c; prime 10¾c; good 10a11c; Cuba sugars 10a11c; New Orleans sugars, fair, 9¾c; good do, prime 10¾c; choice 11c.

Syrups—Havemeyer & Elder 62c; H. & E. Extra Drip; Wilson 60c; Golden Drip 55c; Red Head 50c; Lavender 45c; common 35a40c.

*New Orleans Molasses*—New crop, prime, 55c; choice 60c.

*Rice*—Carolina choice 10c; Rangoon 8a8½c; Patna 9c.

*Spices*—Pepper grain 24c; pure ground 30c; Cassia bark 26c; cloves 22c; nutmegs $1 20.

GRAIN—Below we give the receipts of wheat, rye, corn, oats and barley for the past forty-eight hours:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Wheat, sacks | 894 | Corn, sacks | 888 |
| Oats, sacks | 2,018 | Rye, sacks | 206 |
| Barley, sacks | 1,435 | | |

The receipts continue light, which causes prices to rule firm. We do not change our quotations for wheat, and confined to small lots, sell as at $1 55, and white at 2s3 cents better, per car load. Sales, with the usual advance in prices, to jobbing lots. Oats.—There is a fair demand, with sales by car load at 40a40c, and in a jobbing way at 42a43c. Corn—Shelled is held firmly on the basis of elevator, free, 62c ₱ bush; car commands 62a65c in a jobbing way. Rye is in limited supply and is held at 90a$1 ₱ bush. Barley.—Nominal rates as follows: spring 75a80c; fall 85a88c; Inferior dull at 75c.

HAY—Receipts 1,475 tons. Prices are firm at $20a$25 ton for baled by car load.

HORSE—Supply limited and prices firm. New 75a 90a70c ₱ lb; old 70a 80a44c ₱ lb.

HUSKS—In good demand at 2½@2¾c.

HONEY—Sales at 30@35c. Demand limited.

HEMP—Sales of rough Kentucky at $165 ₱ ton; single strands $240; dressed $320.

HOMINY—$5 00 ₱ bbl to the trade, and $5 50 in a jobbing way.

LARD OIL—Demand active, with sales of No 1 extra at 8a8½c; No 2, 62a64c; Cincinnati and Chicago winter strained 80a82c.

LIME—Perrysburgh white $3@2 25 ₱ bbl; Cleveland $2 25; Eastern 75c; Bellefonte $1 50.

SHELL FEED—Middlings $1 80@2 ₱ cwt; seconds $1 45 at 75; shorts $1; rye shorts $1 50; chopped c r on ear oats $1 50; chopped rye $2 00; feed $1 60@1 70.

MINCE MEAT—All good brands are held at 13c ₱ lb.

POULTRY—Sales at the following figures: Dressed turkeys 18a16c; ducks 15a16c; geese 10a11c; chickens 14a15c. Live fowls 12a13c; ducks, old, 13c; young quoted at $1 00@1 25.

POTATOES—Prime peachblows in demand at 75a75c ₱ bush.

RAGS—Fair inquiry at 4a4¼c ₱ lb.

ROSIN—Barlow Pyman—Sales of ¾-lb cans at $1 50; ¾-lb $1; 1-lb $6 ₱ doz.

SEEDS—Clover seed $5 60@5 75; timothy seed $3 75 a4 00.

SALT—Car load $1 85; store $2 00.

SUMAC—Sales of Tennessee made at 4¾c ₱ lb.

TALLOW—Sales 8a8½c.

WILLOWS—Sales Kentucky at 10c.

WHISKY—Highwines 95c; common rectified 95cs $1 00; proof rectified $1 05a1 10; rye and corn $1 60a1 65 ₱ gallon; old Monongahela whisky $4 00 a5 00 as to age.

## PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY, February 15, 1872.

REMARKS.—The market remains quiet, being entirely devoid of animation. Sellers are apparently in idle views, with no immediate indication of coming to a proper understanding. In the absence of sales we can only give the rates at which oil can be obtained.

CRUDE.

Oil was freely offered at the following: Spot, 10c; February, 10c; S. O. all year, 10c; B. O. all year, 12c. For terms in the oil regions see our dispatches.

REFINED.

Dealers being apart in their views we did not learn of any sales. It was offered deliverable in the east at the following: Spot, 21¾c; February, 21¾c; March, 22¼c; April, 22¾c.

[By Western Union Telegraph.]

TITUSVILLE, February 14.—The *Courier* says: Again we have had another dull day. There is no particular change on paper or roads. Business is light, and the market continues weak. Following are the

SALES:

1,000 bbls upper road, spot..... 2 75
2,000 bbls upper road, 5 O, 1st quarter..... 3 75⅞
2,000 bbls upper road, 5 O, 1st quarter..... 3 90
500 bbls upper road, spot..... 2 75
1,000 bbls upper road, spot..... 3 75
500 bbls Church Run..... 3 80
500 bbls Black Fork..... 3 90
1,000 bbls lower road, S. O. first 3 months.. 3 85
1,000 bbls lower road, spot..... 3 75⅞
1,500 bbls Oil City, spot..... 4 00

NEW YORK, February 14.—Closing of 13th.—Crude in bulk scarce and firm at 13c; refined very quiet and prices nominal; 21¾c asked. For Philadelphia delivery there is a moderate shipping inquiry at steady figures; sales 2,000 bbls refined for February 21¾c; 6,000 bbls for March at 22¼c.

OIL CITY, February 14.—Market dull and nothing doing; lower road held at $3 90; Oil City held at $4 00.

PHILADELPHIA, February 14.—Market quiet and steady at $3 25a3 00.

PITTSBURGH, February 14.—Market quiet at about $4a4 10.

OIL CITY, February 14.—Market quiet; S. W 21¾@21¾c; crude 11¾; cases 27¾c; March 22¾c; April 22¾c.

TITUSVILLE, February 14.—Market quiet and declining; $3 50a3 75.

Oil City and Atlantic Line.)

NEW YORK, February 14.—Crude in bulk 13a14c; in bbls, 16¾c; refined 22c. Market dull but steady. For Philadelphia, February 21¾c; March 22¾c; crude 11¾c.

TITUSVILLE, February 14.—Market quiet at 76, 75. PETROLEUM CENTRE, February 14.—Market dull; spot at $3 25a3 00. No sales.

PARKER'S LANDING, February 14.—Market quiet at $3 62½a3 65.

ROUSEVILLE, February 14.—Market quiet and dull at $3 87a3 90.

OIL CITY, February 14.—Market very dull at [illegible]

COAL MARKETS.

CINCINNATI, February 14.—The trade has been confined to one or two small orders, and the market is without change. Most of the week at full prices, but the demand has reduced rapidly, but it is believed that we shall have an opportunity to replenish it.

Youghiogheny, per bush, delivered..... 24c
Ohio river, delivered, ₱ bush..... 20c
Cannel, ₱ bush..... 30@35c
Gas Coke, at yards, ₱ bush..... 10c
Gas Coke, delivered, ₱ bush..... 14c
Hard Coke, delivered, ₱ bush..... 20c

February 12.—Coal has a steady consumptive demand at previous prices. Youghiogheny 24c delivered, Ohio river 20c, and Cannel 30c delivered. Gas coke at yards 12c, and delivered at 14c. Hard foundry coke 20c.

ST. LOUIS.

Coal scarce and selling at 30c per bushel.

LOUISVILLE.

February 13.—The market remains unchanged. The quotations are as follows: Pittsburgh, 30c; Indiana, 20; Pine Hill, 20c; Hender, 18c; Peacock Pomeroy, 18c; cannel, 20c; Mattingly 18c; anthracite, $11 and $13 ₱ ton.

MEMPHIS.

The *Avalanche* furnishes the following: The total stock of coal on the banks of all the dealers of this city, yesterday, was 127,000 bushels as follows: Brown & Jones, Pittsburgh lump, 30,000 bush; do nut, 45,500 bush; Tradewater lower Ohio, 16,000 bush; Saltlic, 14,500 bush; Cannel, 2,500 bush; Pittsburgh coke, 8,000 bush; George Cleveland, Pittsburgh lump, 2,000 bush; Packer, Pittsburgh coal, 7,500 bush; Walt & Lewis, Pittsburgh, 7,500 bush. From the above, 250 loads per day are required to supply the gas and iron works. At the mouth of White river there is a supply of the largest, about 125,000 bushels in all. The stock on hand at New Orleans on the first of the present month was 55 boats and 3 barges, all of which was on the market, except 15 boats belonging to the gas and steamship companies. The supply on hand was 900,000 bushels, and sufficient to last two months. During January the consumption was 25 boats or 500,000 bushels. The supply of Pittsburgh coal at this point is nearly 100,000 bushels, and by careful husbanding can be made to hold out several weeks longer. Until the arrival from above, steamers will be required to fill the most of their orders at the mouth of White river, where the supply is abundant.

## CRACKER MARKET.

OFFICE OF PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, February 15, 1872.

| | Price. | | Price. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | ₱ lb. | | ₱ lb. |
| Boston | 8c | Soda | 7½c |
| Butter | 7½c | Sugar | 10 c |
| Cream | 9c | Water | 7 c |
| Fruit | 13 c | Wine | 10 c |
| Ginger | 13 c | Lemon Jumbles | 14 c |
| Lemon | 12½c | Salted Jumbles | 13 c |
| Oyster | 7½c | Sugar Jumbles | 14 c |
| Scotch | 12½c | | |

## PITTSBURGH MARKET WEEKLY REVIEW.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, February 15, 1872.

REMARKS.—The weather is again cold and the prospects for an early opening of navigation are indefinitely postponed. We omitted our usual glass quotations last week, owing to the fact that the revised card rate was not fully prepared for publication. It will be found below. There have been some changes in dry goods, drugs and chemicals. With these exceptions the markets rule as at last quotations. With regard to trade, in view of closed rivers, cold weather, &c., the only wonder is that it is as fair as reported. All leading wholesale dealers and jobbers have on hand large and well selected stocks, and are quietly awaiting the spring opening. For notable houses see the columns of the Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL.

## PITTSBURGH DRY GOODS MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, February 15, 1872.

BROWN COTTONS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Anchor A | 13½c | Idaho | 13 c |
| Eagle | 13½c | Duquesne | 12 c |
| Conewago | 13 c | Magnolia | 11 c |

PRINTS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Merrimacks | 11½@ c | Richmond | 11½@ c |
| Cocheco | 11½@ c | Pacific | 11½@ c |
| Americans | 11½@ c | Mourning | 11 @ c |
| Conestoga | 11½@ c | Garner | 11 @ c |
| Allen Pinks | 12 @ c | | |

GINGHAMS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Lancaster | 13 | Glasgow | |
| Hales | | | |

DELAINES.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Hamilton | 20c | Manchester | 20c |
| Pacific | 20c | | |

TICKINGS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Whitaker | 42½c | Conestoga Medal | 22c |
| Pittsburgh | 23½c | Pennsylvania | 18c |
| Roanoke | 28 ci | | |

## LUMBER MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, February 15, 1872.

UNPLANED LUMBER.

| | |
|---|---|
| Clear, ₱ M | $65 00 |
| Clear, two cuttings | 55 00 |
| Second clear | 45 00 |
| Third common | 25 00 |
| Sheeting | 25 00 |
| Hemlock joists and scantling | 20 00 |

PLANED LUMBER.

| | |
|---|---|
| First common, ₱ M | $60 00 |
| Clear | 70 00 |
| Flooring boards | 35 00 |
| Partition battens | 35 00 |
| Shelving on both sides | 35 00 |
| Shelving on one side | 30 00 |
| Plow and drop weatherboarding | 35 00 |
| Moulded weatherboarding | 37 00 |
| Rabbited weatherboarding | 35 00 |
| Half-inch patent planed | 25 00 |
| Half-inch patent unplaned | 20 00 |
| Twelve-inch vertical, with stripes | 33 00 |
| Oak and yellow pine flooring boards | 45 00 |

SHINGLES AND LATH.

| | |
|---|---|
| No. 1, 18-inch, sawed | $ 7 00 |
| No. 2, 18-inch, sawed | 5 00 |
| No. 1, 16-inch, sawed | 6 00 |
| No. 2, 16-inch, sawed | 4 00 |
| Lath | 4 50 |

## CORDAGE MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, February 15, 1872.

The following are the card rates of dealers:

| | |
|---|---|
| Manilla rope | 21¾ |
| Manilla rope, twelve thread | 22 |
| Manilla rope, fifteen and nine thread | 23½ |
| Manilla hawser laid oil well boring rope | 22 |
| Manilla hawser, tarred | 22 |
| Manilla bath twine, tarred | 22 |
| Manilla hay, stave and leather twine | 23 |
| Sisal rope | 20½ |
| Sisal bath twine, tarred | 20 |
| Sisal hay, stave and leather twine | 20½ |
| American hackled hemp tarred rope | 19 |
| American hackled hemp white rope | 20 |
| Jute rope, tarred | 15 |
| Jute rope | 13½@15 |
| Jute bagging, 1¾ to 2 lbs | 13 @15 |
| Bagging, manilla and hamburgine | 23 @25 |
| Spun yarn | 18 @22 |
| Hemp bath twine, tarred | 20 |
|

# Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1872.


TERMS.

One copy, per year.....$2 00
In clubs of twenty per year.....1 50
One copy gratis to the getter up of the club.


**Wanted.**

Copies of the following dates of the WEEKLY COMMERCIAL, to complete our file:

Two copies March 11, 1871.
Two copies April 15, 1871.
Two copies September 30, 1871.
Two copies October 1, 1871.
Two copies November 25, 1871.

THE death of Senator EVANS (Republican) leaves the State Senate balanced, the same as before the election in the Fourth District, with the body fully organized by the election of Republican officers. A special election will be held as soon as the required twenty days' notice can be given, and early in March Mr. EVANS's successor will be in his seat. The district last fall gave over 4,000 Republican majority.

IN AN article evidently written by Congressman ROOSEVELT, the New York *Citizen*, after carefully surveying the political horizon, comes to the conclusion that the "Republican split" will amount to nothing; that neither GREELEY, SUMNER nor TRUMBULL will answer the necessities of the Democracy; that the passive policy is daily growing weaker, and that it is "almost inevitable that the Democracy should fall back upon their own men." It adds that the choice of the Democratic party for a leader is rapidly settling down between General HANCOCK and ex-Senator HENDRICKS, Mr. TILDEN having lost ground by the unwise and precipitate course of his friends. In the opinion of the *Citizen*, HANCOCK is still the leading candidate, notwithstanding all the "foolish and unfounded rumors" which have been set afloat concerning him.

A FEW DAYS ago we received the initial number of an illustrated free trade journal, called *The Pictorial Taxpayer*, published in New York, and designed to be issued monthly. Every one of the numerous engravings which it contained, was an attempted caricature of some feature of the tariff. On looking over its pages we find that more than two-thirds of its advertisements are those of English manufacturing and commercial firms, doing business in the principal cities of England, or of their agents and representatives in New York. The key to the engravings is thus furnished at once, so that no one who looks upon the pictures need be at a loss to understand the precise meaning of the artist, or at least of those who hired him. We mention this fact because it sometimes happens that people do not at first fully comprehend the exact nature of a work of art. When, however, they are furnished with a clue as to the author's idea, the rest is easy.

ALTHOUGH displeased with the reception, rather no reception at all, accorded to DAVIS in Washington, the Russian Emperor, the royal household, and all the others who know anything about it, are greatly delighted with the manner the Duke has been everywhere received and treated by the American people. The accounts of all these things were read at St. Petersburg with the deepest interest. To Minister CURTIS of the New York reception the Empress said: "I do not know, Mr. CURTIS, how to express my thanks and my delight and gratification for all the splendid and enthusiastic reception that has been tendered ALEXIS by the great-hearted American people. Believe me, I shall never forget it, and I wish you to tell them how much I have been touched by these marks of friendship and kindness." What will the warm-hearted mother say when she receives the head and horns of the first buffalo ALEXIS killed on the plains? And how will she explain herself when she hears from his own lips an account of the jolly good times he had all over the country, with all sorts of people, who don't care a fig about the little quarrel between Secretary FISH and Mr. CATACAZY.

WE have the almost official assurance that in regard to the rascally character of the General Order System, they see it now at Washington, and are going to do something about it. Precisely what will be done is not known, but something serious, we are told. All of which is good. But it is not the least curious part of the business that we should cost so much time and effort to expose these rascally impositions. Although the villainy practiced on the public by the Custom House machine was made known to officers of the Government, high and low, no notice was taken of it. But when the thing came to be so bad that a further attempt to cover up would be fatal, we are treated to a sufficient display of indignation—and perhaps reform. These things are not true solely of the Custom House, nor of the Federal Government. Similar charges are made in sundry places and concerning the General, State and Municipal governments; and until exposure, which always comes at the hardest, takes place, no attempt at reform is made. Such has been the general fact. But let us hope that the eclipse is passing off.

**"At last Mr. Sumner and the President are upon a common platform. However they may disagree on questions of internal Republican policy, they are both agreed that no settlement can be accepted Great Britain only their stern demand will bring satisfaction; that not one inch must be yielded, nor one point conceded. And now that the President and the Massachusetts Senator are in unison upon this question, why not unite on others? Questions upon which they divided have faded out of public sight and remembrance, and no line how separates them.**

So says the Philadelphia *Press*. Perhaps the better way to put it would be: Why should Mr. SUMNER be visited with pains and penalties for disagreeing in the San Domingo proposition, which is in part, never mind what party measure—and MORTON, CONKLING, CARPENTER and a dozen other Senators let off and even approbated for opposing amnesty, civil service reform and other measures of the party? A close scrutiny will disclose that SUMNER, SCHURZ, TRUMBULL and other so-called rebellious Senators have, by the curious windings and currents at Washington, been brought in accord with the President on a greater number of questions of great importance than MORTON, CONKLING and others, who stood forth as the special champions of the President and executioners of all who should venture to entertain other views. Here is a topic worthy of Col. FORNEY's facile pen.

THE *Atlantic Monthly* has gone into the free trade business. An article in the last number asserts for its premises that:

**"The burden of a tax is to be gauged by the proportion which it bears to the rate of profit that may be gained from the use of the thing taxed, either in the production of some new form of the thing itself, or in the production of some other article of which the thing taxed is a component part."**

It seems hardly worth while to have taken up a dozen pages to muddy the stream from so muddy a spring, but a distinguished writer in the *Atlantic* has done it. Suppose we apply this to the article of tea, on which the tea traders propose to put a duty of twenty-five cents a pound. In the production of what "other article is the thing used a component part?" And "what is the profit by which its burden is gauged?" On the other hand, suppose we apply the theory to bar iron. The writer asserts that every tariff is a tax, and that it is a tax not only on the article imported, but also on every pound consumed, wherever produced. Absurd as is this assumption, let us admit it in the illustration. Then suppose the profit to the manufacturer in making a ton of bar iron to be eight dollars. The tariff on the ton of pig metal of which he makes it is six dollars. Apply the rule of our writer, and the "burden" of tax paid by the maker of bar iron is six dollars on eight. *Keep* the tariff takes away from him three-fourths of his profit. If the *Atlantic* could only make the Bar Iron Association "see it."

**AN ANTHROPOLOGICAL SPECULATION.**

It is an old speculation that the people of each race, so called, are what they are, in virtue or through the influence of their climate. An obvious corollary from the theory is that people who change their climate are likely if not certain to lose their proper traits of character and physique, and to acquire those which the new geographical influences to which they are exposed are adapted to produce. In the last century there were not a few philosophers who professed to believe that Europeans transferred to America would, after a few generations, become completely Indianized in appearance and conditions, and some even fancied that traces of the transformation in progress were already manifest in the Americans. It seems that these strange speculations are not yet extinct but still find earnest supporters. The reader of HARRIOTT DIXON'S books will remember that that fine philosopher, when among us some years ago, was struck with some signs of the very gradual approximation of the Yankee features and character to the type of the American aborigines; a transmutation of which he gives some indications that evince stronger powers of imagination than of reason or observation. It would, however, be unfair to regard DIXON as fully committed to the theory. His object evidently was to say something piquant, if not exasperating. But no such paltry or unworthy motive can be said to have prompted or directed the researches of a Parisian savant, Professor HENRI BERTHOUD, who finds in facts unmistakable evidence that we Americans are being by degrees changed into Indians. A specimen or two of the reasons upon which the conclusion is founded will, no doubt, be interesting to our readers. On inquiry Professor BERTHOUD learns from the French glove-makers that all gloves (*for handshoes* as the Germans call them), intended for the American market, are provided with much longer fingers than are required in the same articles for European use. In the way of confirmation or interpretation of the fact, the Professor cites from a letter written by an anthropologist of Philadelphia, a passage of the following purport: "Even in the second generation the type of the Anglo-American presents a characteristic resemblance to that of the Leni Lenape, Iroquois and Cherokee Indians. The skin acquires a leathery dryness, and the warm complexion and freshness disappear from the cheeks, while their place is taken by an impure duskiness in men and by a sickly paleness in women. The skull loses its oval form and becomes round or else pointed. Thin hair of a dark color covers the head. The neck gains in length; the eyes sink in their sockets, the iris becomes dark and the expression of the eye wild and penetrating. And the long bones of the upper extremities become longer." From the work of another American savant Professor BERTHOUD quotes the testimony that "the speech of the Americans in its external features betrays an increasing tendency to resemble that of the Indians." In the predilection of his compatriots for excluding the light from their houses and in their fancy for glaring or *loud* colors this American perceives a community of taste between them and the red men. The same view, it seems, is favored by the fact that the proverbial phlegm of the English race steadily goes on decreasing among the Yankees, giving place to excitability, nervous restlessness and feverish activity. The prevalence of these latter qualities among Americans *is* so generally admitted that illustration was hardly needed. However, the French Professor refers in explication to the notorious fact that the Yankee constantly feels himself under the pressing necessity of employing his hands in some way, and that inability to sit still on a chair is also alleged. The latter form of uneasiness, we are told, has led to the invention and common use of rocking chairs among us, while the former species of restlessness makes it necessary for the proprietors of the large, elegantly furnished American hotels to provide their guests with sticks to whittle and staves to break. Finally, the Professor proves of their *chairs*, tables and window frames from the ravages of their patrons' pocket-knives.

Facts are always interesting, and in so far as the foregoing statements rest upon reality, they may be thankfully taken for what they are worth. The theory which accounts for American peculiarities by referring them to the Indian type is, we fancy, chiefly valuable as an illustration of the foolish conclusions with which even eminent scientific men are sometimes satisfied.

**HOW IS THIS?**

The interminable fruitless harangues, debates and passages at arms between honorable Senators and Representatives, which distinguish the current proceedings of Congress, would be very wearisome to outside observers, if they did not afford so much curious instruction concerning the remarkable changes produced by time, or some other equally potent agency, in the views, opinions and attitudes of not a few of our public men with respect to certain grave public questions of the time.

The President of the United States, for instance, is the recognized head of the Republican party; and the support of his administration, and of those measures of national policy whose adoption he has from time to time recommended, has been uniformly insisted upon as the test of fidelity to the party. It is true that some journals and public men in the ranks of the organization have contended that this obligation was not so absolute as to preclude the exercise of individual judgment, preclude the right of dissent on matters which seemed of doubtful propriety or expediency, or prohibit the respectful exercise of that free opinion which is apt to characterize an honest attachment to principle; but it is equally true that those who chiefly assumed to be the anointed oracles and interpreters of the party have held that the allegiance meant the unhesitating acceptance of every measure which might be promulgated from party headquarters.

When, for example, Senator SUMNER a year ago took issue with the President upon the Santo Domingo annexation scheme, he was not only denounced by some of the party, and was deposed from the Chairmanship of the Committee on Foreign Affairs on the ground that it was necessary to discipline him for party contumacy and insubordination; and this, notwithstanding that the scheme of annexation involved no party principle, and as subsequent events have clearly shown, in no wise commended itself to the Republican masses of the country.

We refer to this matter for the sake of illustration, and to point a present moral. In his last Message to Congress the President recommended to the favorable consideration of that body certain important measures, among them amnesty for political offenses, the reform of the civil service, and other salutary reforms at once demanded by the people and designed to promote the general advantage.

Where do the rigid disciplinarians stand as to these important questions, and what have they done to carry out the desires of the head of the Republican party and of its adherents and supporters throughout the country? What are the people to think of the vehement opposition of Senators MORTON and CHANDLER to amnesty measure whose object is to extinguish, as far as possible, the remaining animosities of the war, and to leave the people of the Southern States free to control their own local affairs? These Senators were swift enough to arraign Senator SUMNER as a traitor; what plea can they offer why sentence of excommunication should not be pronounced on themselves?

So, too, with respect to Civil Service Reform. That some measure looking to the purgation and purification of the public service from impurities vitally demanded, and that the recommendations of the President were animated by an honest and disinterested zeal for the welfare of the whole country, who can doubt? Yet if the plan devised by the Commissioners appointed to give effect to the recommendations of the President, had been an avowed conspiracy to overthrow the Republic, it could hardly have met with more opposition than it has received from the illustrious clique of the foolish conclusions with which even eminent scientific men are sometimes satisfied.

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WHEN mentioning a short time ago the final adjustment of the difficulty between Germany and Brazil, we referred to certain additional privileges which the latter government had agreed to grant to the German colonists settled under its jurisdiction. Probably few of our readers are aware what a very important part Germans are performing in the development of the resources of the Brazilian empire. Their chief settlements are situated in the province of Rio Grande de Sul, and on any good map of the country the reader will find San Leopoldo, the chief town of the colonies, near the sea coast and nearly under the thirtieth parallel of south latitude. The first emigrants landed on the coast in 1825, one hundred and twenty-six souls in all. At present a great German population is spreading over the province in all directions, covering hundreds of square miles, and already under their skilfully directed industry it has become the granary of the Brazilian empire. Not only agriculture but trade and commerce flourish among them. Thirty years ago they introduced the first steamers that plied on the rivers of the province, and quite recently they laid the foundation of its first railway station. Throughout these German settlements are well provided with churches and schools, and three newspapers are sustained. Such facts are sufficient to prove that the Confederate colonies of recent times must have failed through other causes than the proper deficiencies of Brazil.

**THE TAXES ON CORPORATIONS.**

We have seen no argument against the justice of our views upon the above subject as recently expressed in these columns. The only objection urged against their adoption, so far as we have heard, is that the changes proposed will largely reduce the revenues of the Commonwealth, and thereby prevent the payment of the State debt as it becomes due.

We propose to examine this question, to show, if we can, that the objection, even if true, is not an insuperable obstacle; that it is not true to an extent that should delay the administration of even-handed justice toward the interests that we have shown to be unjustly discriminated against; and to indicate a plan—we do not claim it necessarily as the best—whereby the objection so far as it exists may be met.

We have remarked that the tax proposed of two per cent. on net earnings or profits would probably produce a revenue of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars per annum. We think if fully and impartially collected it would reach three hundred thousand dollars—leaving a reduction in the revenue from taxes on corporations of seven hundred thousand dollars.

The excess of receipts of the Commonwealth from ordinary sources in 1871, over the expenses and interest on the debt, is stated by the Governor at $1,685,378, applicable to reduction of the debt.

Deducting the estimated loss in taxes on corporations of $700,000 would leave as applicable to the reduction of the debt about one million dollars per annum, the revenue from other sources remaining the same as heretofore.

There can be no surer plan for increasing the revenue from other sources, than by offering inducements for the investment of capital, foreign and domestic, in the corporate form, but of this we will take no further account at present.

The debt of the Commonwealth on the 30th November, 1871, may be briefly summarized as follows, viz.:

| | |
|---|---|
| Debt overdue | $2,502,695 00 |
| Due in 1872, 73, six per cent. | 3,867,400 00 |
| Due in 1875, five per cent. | 3,399,700 00 |
| Total, payable in five years | $9,281,795 00 |
| Due in 1878, five per cent | $ 200,000 00 |
| Due in 1879, six per cent | 500,000 00 |
| Due in 1877, '82, six per cent | 7,460,350 00 |
| Due in 1892, five per cent | 1,119,950 00 |
| Due in 1892, four and one-half per cent. | 112,000 00 |
| Total payable in five to ten years | $9,812,300 00 |
| Due in 1882 to 1892, ten to twenty years, six per cent | $9,271,850 00 |
| Total debt | $28,866,145 00 |

The amount of cash in the Treasury, as stated by the Governor, was $1,476,808 00, and he stated that the over due debt of $2,502,695 "can without doubt be paid as rapidly as the "as the holders will present it to the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund."

The assets in the Sinking Fund, all ultimately available for reduction of the debt, amount to $9,400,000. We may assume that these are only available to meet the debt of 1882-92, and we then have to meet within the five years to and in 1877.....$7,279,100 00
And in five years to and in 1882...  9,812,500 00

A total in ten years of.....$17,091,600 00

Our annual surplus revenue applicable to reduction of the debt we have assumed to be $1,000,000. This would be increased each year by the interest on the debt paid off, an amount of $50,000 to $60,000 per annum, and the total reduction from the application of this surplus would, in the ten years, amount to about $12,500,000, leaving but $4,000,000 of debt unprovided for.

To meet this, and render the financial condition of the Commonwealth easy, we would suggest a new issue of five per cent. bonds, dated in 1872, due in 1892 to 1897, to the amount of $5,000,000, giving the holders of the 6s of 1872-'77 the privilege of exchanging at par for one year, and giving the holders of the 6s of 1877-'82 a like privilege for three years, provided that the right to exchange should cease with the absorption or sale of the $5,000,000.

At the expiration of one year let an amount of new bonds, equal to the amount of 6s of 1872-'77 outstanding, be put upon the market by receiving tenders at not below par, and when sold call in the outstanding 6s of '72-'77. The balance of the new 5s being about $1,200,000, if not exchanged for 6s of '77-'82, could be sold in the manner in 1877, and the amount of the 6s then due could be called in.

Could these proposed 5 per cent. bonds be sold at par? We think they could, with the adoption of these suggested provisions, for meeting the entire debt of the State.

The 5 per cents due in 1877 are now quoted at 96. The 6s of '72-'77 at 102; the 6s of '77-'82 at 106¾, and the 6s of '82-'92 at 108¾. A comparison of the 6s of '72-'77 and the 6s of '82-'92 shows that the latter quote at 6¾ per cent above the former.

A like increase on the 5 per cents of '77 would make the proposed 5s of '92-'97 worth about 105-6, and it is our belief that such an issue of bonds would command a premium.

It is not credible that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania can be seriously embarrassed with a debt of only $19,000,000 in excess of its present assets, with a surplus income of $1,000,000 per annum, and that surplus being with reasonable certainty increased by $100,000 in each successive year.

Therefore we say once more—let the odious, unjust and unreasonable tax on capital stock be abolished; let the tax on earnings be reduced one-third now, and abolish it as soon as it can be spared, and encourage the association of capital in the corporate form, as tending to the widest development of the still largely latent wealth of this great and glorious State.

**SHAM OR REALITY.**

It is undoubtedly true that the demand for reform is more earnestly and persistently urged just now than ever before in the entire history of the country. We are at present enjoying the benefits of a reaction against the frightful corruption and roguery which were the natural results of the circumstances in which the country was left by the war. However ample and abundant the opportunities for peculation and fraud, which existed before the conflict, they were slight in comparison with subsequent conditions, and the fact would have been simply miraculous if scoundrels had not made haste to reap the gloriously rich and tempting harvest which stood waiting for their sickles. Then in the exposure of the Tammany thieves the attempt to stem the flood of villainy which was sweeping over the land was so successful as to encourage reformers everywhere. Many who had despaired of deliverance, began to believe in the possibility of a triumph of honesty, and the clamor for change is now so vehement, and is raised from so many points, that, either in mere contagion or as a refuge from the storm, many of the corruptionists themselves are taking up the cry, and their feebly discordant notes may from time to time be heard trying to counterfeit the voices of reformers. Of course, it is not meant that these harmoniously dissonant voices belong to any of those masterly tacticians who, from the beginning of the movement, attached themselves to its ranks for the mere purpose of counteracting and thwarting its promoters. By no means. They are generally most accomplished fellows, cool and sagacious in action, most mellifluous, plausible and even philosophical in speech, whose studies in the art of how-not-to-do-it have so qualified them for the part which they perform, that no coarse blundering, or false notes are likely to mark their conduct. "Hasten slowly," and "soon enough if well enough"—Lord ELDON'S favorite maxims—are theirs also, which they ring with consummate grace and cogency, as the only just principles of popular action.

There is undoubtedly and imminent danger that the mighty movement in favor of reform may become utterly muddled and end in hopeless contentment with things as they are. All circumstances and conditions combine in behalf of the present status of the subject, and there is small likelihood that within an age or a generation all relations, internal and external, will present so many theoretical and practical inducements in furtherance of vigorous and decided measures for the correction of abuses and for the establishment of a system by which similar evils shall be in future prevented. In fact the present is a crisis in the grand experiment of government by the people for the people. If the people, who are alone directly concerned, neglect or refuse to use their opportunity by seizing the vantage ground of circumstances to right the wrongs for which they are responsible, the failure will be, to say the least, of sinister augury for their political future. Foreigners, once zealous republicans, but at length delivered from what they call the illusions which made them republicans, already scoff at the promise of effective reforms among us. Referring to the notorious corruption which prevails in so many of our legislative bodies, they ask with a sneer, whence is reform to come? The members of these bodies are elected by the people and doubtless represent them. The fall of a representative assembly, like the fall of a single person, may be accounted for by the exceptionally powerful temptation by which it was assailed. But when successive assemblies, each elected by the people, fall in the same way, it certainly seems neither illogical nor uncharitable to suspect the moral weakness of the mass from whom the individuals had been elected, and to assume that reform, in order to be radical, must begin in the foundations. The people, it is alleged, are neither better nor worse than the men whom they choose to represent them.

It is quite natural that such an inference is drawn from the facts of the case by hostile or superficial observers, though it does gross injustice to the people. If we may be sure of anything, we may be sure that the people derive no satisfaction from being robbed either wholesale or in trifles. And it is equally certain, that the number who like the system under which robbery with impunity is possible, for the sake of their own chances of benefit from its opportunities, form a very small minority of the voters of the country. Ninety-nine hundredths of them think of the dishonest lapses of their legislators and office-holders with burning indignation, whenever the disgusting subject is forced upon their attention. The people are better, much better than their representatives and public servants, who abuse the trusts confided to their hands. And one chief cause of the difference is indubitably found in the long established system by which the civil administration of the country is converted into a structure of money making machinery combining the steady gains of ingenuity and enterprise with the splendid chances of a lottery. Lord CLIVE, comparing his opportunities of illicit wealth with his actual acquisitions, swore that he stood astonished at his own moderation. The feeling is perhaps not uncommon. At any rate our system holds out temptations of various kinds, which in the absence of fit training, compensatory tenure and adequate supervisions, sufficiently account for the perils and falls which distinguish the political career among us.

As it is strictly true that "the Government of every nation is such as the nation deserves to live under," we may trust that the American people, at last fully awake to the need of reform, will permit no false issues or misrepresentations or chicanery to turn them aside from the accomplishment of their purpose.

**"IRELAND FOR THE IRISH."**

A cable dispatch of the 6th inst says that the Home Rule candidate for Galway, Mr. JOHN PHILIP NOLAN, has been elected to Parliament. The fact is only one of many which indicate the increasing strength of a party which threatens before very long to absorb all the factions at present hostile to British rule in Ireland. By his policy of justice and conciliation, Mr. GLADSTONE has almost succeeded in destroying the various Irish parties which, differing in many respects, were all united in enmity to the abuses of the British Government. In hating and denouncing such an enormity as the established church of Ireland, agitators knew that they had with them the sympathy of the world, and in the excitement of warfare against it and other evils, many of the old and an entire new generation had almost forgotten the meaning of the word "Repale." When the monsters against which they had been so long and fiercely fighting suddenly vanished out of sight, not a few of the reformers evidently felt as some of our abolitionists felt when the slavery question was suddenly taken out of their hands, that their occupation was gone. Agitation had become their element. With no class to hate in the name of virtue and to inveigh against in the name of the Lord, they at once became conscious of an "aching void." For so many years accustomed to feel themselves and recognize their own vigor only in the resistance provoked and in the passions excited by their vehement appeals and anathemas, they were overshadowed and unfortunate by the sudden sense of their insignificance. But a "cause" in which to exercise their restless faculties and to gratify their love of combat was soon discovered in the revival of the old demand of "Ireland for the Irish!" In fact, with the mass of the indigenous population of the island, with the class whose spiritual or sacerdotal representatives for the time counselled masterly inactivity, and whose leaders and representatives carried on war against the Saxon foreigners from behind hedges, the claim thus briefly expressed was never dormant, or in a state of abeyance. Its realization never ceased to be cherished as a not merely mundane or secular, but as even a religious hope, the fulfillment of which would once more restore its primitive glory to "the Isle of saints," by re-assembling within it the Church of Rome. And, though, as already intimated, Home Rule for Ireland has some advocates among those Protestant agitators whose vocation perished by the inauguration of effective reforms, it seems in the main to be the scheme of the eccentric religio-political party, of which Cardinal MANNING, or Cardinal GRANDISON, as DISRAELI calls him, may be one of the oracles. "Where the ordinary eye sees only a poor, ignorant Irish peasant, Dr. MANNING discerns a heaven-commissioned bearer of light and truth, destined by his unquestioning faith, to redeem perhaps, in the end, even English philosophers and statesmen." Thus Mr. JUSTIN MCCARTHY lately wrote about His Eminence. On more satisfactory authority than a lecture by the Archbishop himself, we know that he regards England as having retrograded in civilization ever since the Reformation, and that he thinks that nothing but the universal restoration of mediæval popery will suffice to rescue Europe from the barbarism by which it is at present threatened. Home rule for Ireland, of resolutions passed at a public meeting in Dublin, or possibly somewhere in Tipperary, and consisting of members elected by the Irish people. When we remember the relative numbers of Catholics and Protestants who constitute the population of the island, there can be no doubt as to what would be the political and religious complexion of a large majority of their representatives in Parliament. GLADSTONE'S "heaven-commissioned bearers of light and truth" would at length be masters of the country and would with the least possible delay enter upon the work of reform. Under sacredotal inspiration the legislators would be animated by the lofty ambition of making Ireland what it used to be, a center from which "the light of truth should be irradiated," not only over "all the northern regions," but over the whole world. It would be the first things to be done would be the removal of all traces of English or Protestant barbarism. Even now the Irish priesthood are earnestly engaged, without a word of protest or remonstrance from the Catholic laity, in agitating for the abolition of the free national schools instituted by the English Government and for the establishment of Catholic schools to be supported by the State Parliament, and to be superintended by the priests. Without doubt an Irish Parliament would not only eagerly second those pious labors in behalf of higher civilization, but would at once set an example to all Christendom of the just and proper subordination of the state to the church. Few will venture to say that if strict justice were done, the Irish people would not soon be at liberty thus through representatives chosen by themselves, to arrange their own affairs, and to take the lead in exemplifying their long cherished principles. And no one may deny that the experiment would be truly interesting and well worthy of being carefully watched by the unbelieving nations on both sides of the Atlantic. It must be admitted that the difficulty and consequently the interest of the experiment would be not a little enhanced by some of the secular or non-ecclesiastical duties which would devolve upon the Irish Parliament. Those confiscated lands of which so much has been made by both the friends and the enemies of old Ireland, would have to be restored to their legitimate owners, or rather to their descendants. The bearers of names once illustrious but long obscured, the heads of clans, would demand and receive redress, and then there would be a gathering of the tribes from every region on the globe. As the feuds which formerly raged among them are still cherished, and would certainly be revived in all their pristine power, "for the delight of the conflict as well as for the maintenance of the right," no feature would be wanting to a complete restoration of mediæval civilization. It would surely be a most edifying, as well a most interesting, spectacle.

IT IS to be feared that the colored people of the Southern States are devoting more time than is needed, or than they can prudently afford, to public conventions and gatherings of one kind and another. The President of the Southern States Convention of Colored Men, which was held in Columbia, South Carolina, last October, has, we see, called a National Convention of Colored Men to meet in New Orleans on the 10th of next April, "to consider their political and material interests." Each State is entitled to two delegates, and one additional delegate to every 20,000 colored votes. It is an easy matter to foretell what will be the character of the proceedings of the Convention. There will be the usual plentiful amount of rhetorical palaver, and of resolution making, with, it is to be feared, the same plentiful paucity of practical results, as on late occasions of a similar character. It is a pity that any portion of the colored people should be unable to see that their political and material interests are the same as those of their white fellow citizens, and a yet greater one that their propensity for gathering in conventions for the mere sake of indiscriminate talking cannot be overcome.

COL. MCCLURE'S petition to the Senate is voluminous. In it the claim is set forth that 2,000 illegal votes were cast for Gray, and that Colonel McClure was deprived of 1,000 more votes by the "counting process."

ERASTUS PATTSON, Judge of Election in Twenty-fourth ward, Philadelphia, has been held to bail on two separate charges of misdemeanor as an election officer, at the recent special election, for refusing legal votes.

**GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.**

A New York physician believes that hundreds of persons have contracted the small-pox through the use of fractional currency which has been handled by those afflicted with the disease, and says that nothing can be more favorable for spreading this or any other contagion than paper charged with gum and dirt, as fractional currency almost invariably is.

A committee of the Alabama Senate has favorably reported a bill giving $500 to each widow in Alabama, made by the late war, who is not worth more than one thousand dollars, and to the children or legal representatives of any such widow who may have died.

After going the rounds of the world it is wise to study one's own fields. The Board of Overseers of Harvard College have resolved to restore the teachers in the English department to their duties and to devote more attention to the study of English psychology and political economy. Very sensible.

A Massachusetts physician has gone into the business of producing and disposing of vaccine matter derived from heifer calves inoculated with the cow-pox. The business has become so extensive and profitable on his hands that he has given up all practice of medicine and surgery, and devotes himself altogether to furnishing ounces of this preventive which are worth pounds of cure. Last year he used about three hundred calves, and expects to double the number during the present year.

The Nashville *Union* publishes a letter giving an account of the discovery of a grave in Hickman county, Ky., supposed to contain the remains of a member of De Soto's expedition. Frequent examinations of these mounds have taken place by the neighborhood, and many relics of the past have been brought to light; hatchets of a green stone, bowls with pictures of birds and animals cut upon them, bones that crumbled on being brought to light, an idol about a foot long and hideous to behold, beads made of bone, bows and arrows, or rather the remains of them.

It is said that one of the medical experts on the government side in the Wharton case is dissatisfied with his fee, as, while he was detained at court, the most of his patients got well.

At a gathering in Australia not long since four people met, three of whom were shepherds on a sheep farm. One of these had taken a degree at Oxford, another at Cambridge, the third at a German university. The fourth was their employer, a squatter, rich in flocks and herds, but scarcely able to read and write, much less to keep his own account.

A bill was introduced into the Wisconsin Legislature the other day for the depopulation of the State. The title of the bill was "to make drunkenness a capital crime."

The North Carolina Legislature has just passed a law for the protection of mocking bird nests, and is discussing a bill to prohibit the netting of birds.

Out in Montana the cold has been so intense that whisky has had to be sold *by the stick*.

Four political Conventions are yet to be held this month. Ohio, Labor Reform, on the 26th; Indiana and Missouri, Republican, on the 22d; and Ohio, Temperance, on the 22d.

Mayor Medill proposes to make a clean sweep of the Chicago chimneys by the appointment of a boss sweep to unsoot every chimney in the city once a year, for which the owner thereof must pay thirty cents for each main flue and fifteen cents for each branch flue, whether it "soots" them or not.

Longfellow's "Evangeline" has just been translated into Spanish. Instead of adopting the hexameter verse of the original, the translator has employed the *ottava rima*, the stanza in which Tasso wrote his "Jerusalem Delivered," and Camoens his "Lusiad."

The New York *Express* states that the Messrs. Drexel (of that city and Philadelphia) have purchased the valuable property known as Nos. 25 and 27 Wall street, and Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 Broad street, with a frontage of 78 feet on the former, and 113½ feet on the latter, paying therefor $945,000. This is said to be about the highest quotation ever made for real estate on Manhattan Island. The present buildings are to be demolished after the 1st of May, in order to make room for a magnificent banking house.

The great raft on Red river is continually losing logs at its lower end and catching them at the upper, so that it moves up stream instead of down, as reported in a few miles per year. It is supposed that it has moved four hundred miles since its formation. In 1833, when the raft was one hundred and twenty-four miles long, the work of removing it was commenced by the Government, but after twenty-two years it was abandoned as impracticable, and was continued to opening some of the lateral channels, so as to facilitate navigation. A little ultra-glycerine might help it.

A story is told of a Philadelphia banker who writes a hand somewhat worse than Mr. Greeley, and after being bothered extremely by an insurance agent, sent him a note warning him not to seek him again. The agent presented the note at the bank, and was paid $5,000, the teller thinking it was a check for that amount.

A Washington dispatch says: It is well known that one of the commissioners, Hon. Caleb Cushing, was opposed to the claim for consequential damages, and he therefore must have very reluctantly consented to have submitted it to the arbitrators.

At an alleged interview, recently held at Chiselhurst, between the ex-Emperor Napoleon and a "considerable personage," a strong supporter of the Empire, Louis Napoleon, after saying that if the French people would accept the Duc d'Aumale as President he would give him his support, as he himself did not hope for a restoration, is reported to have uttered the following words: "But remember well what I am about to say to you. If within six months the Duc d'Aumale be not President of the Republic, and if he should not re-establish the *regime* of 1852, France will come to fetch me, and—she will find me."

Ohio has taken a sensible step toward a reform of the antiquated laws which make the impaneling of a jury in a criminal case of any importance such a farcical, as well as absurd, proceeding. Both branches of the legislature have passed a bill providing that the printing of newspaper reports of a crime shall not make the reader incompetent to sit as a juror in the case, and hereafter in that State ignorance will not be the first requisition for admission to the jury box.

Our government finds that the claim for consequential damages pressed against England is a game that other people can play. There is a case now urged against the government by an Englishman named Crutchett, who kept a cane factory near the railroad depot in Washington when the war broke out. The government seized his premises for a soldiers' rest, and he demands reparation. There would be no difficulty in settling with him for actual damages, but, imitating Secretary Fish, he has put in a claim for consequential damages, amounting to over half a million of dollars.

King Victor Emmanuel has broken off diplomatic relations with the government of the French Republic. There is no flurry of war in the matter, but a quiet abnegation of official communication between the two countries.

Western farmers find that the partridge is a great destroyer of the chinch bug, which is so injurious to wheat fields, and are beginning to protect them from the fowler. One farmer says he has hundreds of tame partridges about his place, and his wheat crops are unusually abundant, while in places not far away the chinch bug commits great ravages. He feeds the birds in winter.

A new style of railroad has been constructed in Assyria. It has a single rail with springs on either side pressing against it, to preserve the balance. The cost is only from $150 to $300 a mile.

The French *Journal Officiel* says that gold production is rapidly increasing in the French colony of Guiana, in South America. The annual product has enlarged from 25,974 francs in 1856 to 1,685,643 francs in 1871. The product between 1856 and 1869 amounted to over ten millions of francs. Gold mining industry in Guiana pays an annual tax of about twenty cents per acre, and an export duty of four per cent. upon bullion. This industry promises to attract to these tropical regions a numerous and energetic population.

In the Prussian army in 1848, out of 28,950 persons revaccinated, in 17,862 cases the vaccine "took," and of the remainder the experiment was successful with 1,579 on another trial. Of the entire number thus vaccinated only one afterward had the varioloid, and not one the small-pox.

The people in the Shenandoah Valley in the neighborhood of Winchester are having one of the most extraordinary drouths ever known in the history of that country. For nine months there has not been a general rain or considerable snow, and the earth is as crisp and as dry as an old shoe sole. The cattle are driven miles to water, and it is not an easy matter to procure enough of this necessary fluid to meet the common demands of the household. This state of things is as remarkable as it is unfortunate. In the memory of the oldest inhabitants there were never a parallel. Prayers for rain were recently offered in the churches.

Our Richmond exchanges state that "the Boy Orator of the South," whoever he may be, is lecturing in that city on "The Drunkard." He is pretty certain to have very little difficulty in practically illustrating his subject.

The meanest school committee in the United States is that of the town of Ripley, Maine. A young man applied last fall for a school in that town, was examined, passed the examination satisfactorily and has taught the school with good success. But the committee had no blank certificates, and the "master" was not furnished with a certificate until the school has nearly over. Now the committee refuses to pay him his salary for the time he taught before receiving the necessary papers.

A shrewd Indianapolis husband recently took advantage of his wife's having small-pox to send for his mother-in-law. The result surpassed his utmost expectations, and he had the satisfaction of paying her funeral expenses a few days after her arrival.